

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.]

## THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

THE British Parliament, of which the ordinary Session commences next week, will resume its labours under no ordinary circumstances. There is not a member of that august body, however lengthened may have been the period during which he has enjoyed the honour, that can recall to his mind the time when the Legislature assembled with so many and such mighty tasks before it. All other questions that for the last eight-and-thirty years have been submitted for its decision have been inferior to the great question of European war, which monopolises the attention of the world. It will throw into comparative insignificance many urgent questions of internal economy and administrative reform. There is, however, no reason to fear that it will cause their postponement for any lengthened period.

Happily, the nation is unanimous, and the unworthy trash uttered by "the Peace-at-all-Price Party," at Manchester, on Tuesday last, awakes no sympathy or approval in the public mind. The ambition of the Muscovite Emperor is too offensive and dangerous to all Europe, to be any longer tolerated. Even were Turkey as surely destined to fall as Mr. Cobden supposes, and Russia so respectable a nation as he asserts, the guilty ambition of the Czar would require to be restrained, if we expect to enjoy the inestimable blessings of national security and honour. No one can say that our love of peace has not been sufficiently shown, and that our forbearance has not been amply proved by many months of zealous and honest exertions to prevent a great calamity. If war is destined to be the result of the Czar's fanaticism, obstinacy, or lust of plunder, the British nation will enter into it with clean hands and a pure conscience. One uncompromising spirit of hostility to his pretensions animates the whole people; and the same spirit, with more or less of intensity, inspires every other nation

in Europe, where public opinion exists. If Parliament have to vote increased taxation to supply the necessary funds, the burden, we have no doubt, will not only be patiently but cheerfully borne. A property and income-tax of three per cent is, as most people know, a sufficient nuisance in ordinary times; but, if it be necessary to increase it to five, or even to ten per cent, there is wealth enough in the country to afford the sacrifice, and patriotism more than sufficient to make it be considered a slight one. Much as this nation detests war, and the authors of war the common sense of the people sees many reasons for thinking it desirable that the Emperor of Russia should persevere in his wickedness a little longer, in order that punishment may more effectually overtake him. Actual war can scarcely do much greater injury than the dread of it has already occasioned. Were the "Lord Orthodox" to yield at the present moment, and to march his armies back again into his own territories, it would only be to renew his project for the dismemberment of Turkey at the first convenient opportunity. Possibly, and indeed most probably, his pretensions would be only allowed to slumber until the alliance of Great Britain and France was less firm and cordial, and until the great German States were less united in their dread and abhorrence of Russian domination; in which case war would again be inevitable, with fewer chances in favour of the rightful cause than there are at the present moment. It has become absolutely necessary that this barbarian encroachment should be chastised, and the task is infinitely more easy now than it is likely to be at any future period. Either in his own person or in those of his successors, the Emperor of Russia must be reduced to his proper level. The great commonwealth of civilised nations can endure no Gengis Khan or Tamerlane among them, for we will not do the memory of the first Napoleon the injustice of comparing him with such a fanatic as the Emperor Nicholas. The pretensions of this monarch are a nuisance, and must be forthwith

abated, or Europe will suffer far more from the uncertainty of his future misdeeds than by the exertion necessary at the present time to put an end to them.

The meeting of Parliament, and the sturdy expression of its opinions which we expect, cannot fail to have the most wholesome influence in every part of Europe. By the usage of our constitutional system, the British Ministers have no available means of making known their sentiments in an authoritative manner when Parliament is not sitting; but, as surely as the month of February comes round, the full blaze of publicity streams upon their acts and opinions. After that time, they speak to the whole world. Ere many days shall elapse they will once again break their long silence; and declare not only the physical might of England, but the moral sentiment of the people, in language that we trust will be impossible for any potentate to misunderstand.

The meeting of Parliament will necessarily be the means of removing many false impressions, and of dissipating many errors. Among the very first of these, which a few words of truth will suffice to dispel, will be the mischievous rumours relative to the Prince Consort, which have of late excited so much attention. There is one statesman in the Ministry who, more than any other, seems called upon to declare whether these statements rest upon any foundation whatever, or are the mere calumnies of two extreme parties—intended not so much to injure the illustrious Prince himself, as to create dissensions in the Ministry. We anticipate that the task will be an easy one, and that Lord Palmerston will not allow the session to be two days old before he effectually demolishes the slanders in which his name and that of the husband of the Sovereign have been so unjustifiably intermingled. We do not imagine that the popularity of the Prince has been sensibly impaired by the gabble of the last few weeks; but if it have been, a word from Lord Palmerston will be sufficient to remove all possible pretext for any renewal of the insinuations.



ISMAIL PACHA.

(SEE LETTER FROM WIDDIN, PAGE 72.)

MAHOMET PACHA.



No wise man attaches any particular value to mere popularity, dependant upon the changeable humours of a crowd, but every wise man desires to stand well in the enlightened opinion of his contemporaries. It has hitherto been the merit, as well as the good-fortune, of the Prince Consort, to have acquired something better than mob-favour. What he has acquired he will retain. Mob favour, which is often as generous as it is capricious, will again display itself on the side of justice and common sense, and the slanders of which the Prince's name has been the target will go the way of all other tittle-tattle, and cease to be remembered to any one's disadvantage, except to that of the factious politicians, leaders or followers, who encouraged it only that they might trade upon it.

The country has reaped so much benefit from the fiscal and commercial reform which preceded and followed the Repeal of the Corn-laws, that, notwithstanding the exigencies of war, it may still look for an extension of the principles of Free-trade. A war with Russia—which, notwithstanding Mr. Cobden's assertions to the contrary, carries on no very considerable trade with this country—will not materially interfere with our commerce. We have it in our power to trade thrice as much with France as ever we traded with Russia, and the principles of Free-trade show us how we may do so. And while Australia is what it is—and while the United States, and our vast Indian empire—to say nothing of the other portions of the civilised and semi-civilised world—continue to be our customers, the cessation of our trade with Russia will scarcely be felt.

The finances of the nation are in so flourishing a state, that further reductions of all the remaining taxes which impede commerce and industry—such, for instance, as the Excise duty upon paper—might safely be made, even in the face of an impending war. It would be a new and a great spectacle to offer to the world, to be able to reduce taxation and extend commerce at the very moment that we entered upon a war with one of the most formidable nations in Europe. Perhaps it will be found that an achievement so remarkable as this will not be too much for the energies of Great Britain.

The Reform question upon which the men of Manchester have set their hearts, is one that not even an anti-Russian war will throw entirely into abeyance. Reform has been promised by a statesman with whose high name and honourable career the question has become identified; and we see no reason why the destruction of Sebastopol or of Cronstadt should so entirely engross the mind of the nation as to allow a few rotten and decaying boroughs to continue to be as largely represented in the British Legislature as great and thriving cities like Manchester and Glasgow. We may strive to remove the plague-spots of bribery and corruption from our small constituencies, without running any risk of neglecting the mightier interests of the struggle in which we and the rest of Europe may become involved with a semi-barbarous power, that only needs to be boldly confronted to be signally defeated. We may, therefore, expect that the question of Parliamentary Reform will not be lost sight of.

## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

### FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The report was spread here on Saturday that M. de Kisseff had received his recall, and was about immediately to take his departure. As may be supposed, this rumour—which, from the advanced state of the Oriental question, and the apparent determination of the Emperor Nicholas to resist all attempts at a pacific settlement of affairs, obtained more credit than it has done on former occasions—caused a lively sensation in all quarters. On Sunday, however, it was contradicted, and another momentary lull succeeded. Few of the Russian families residing in Paris, have taken their departure; but they have suspended, for the most part, their usual receptions and hospitalities, and preserve a discreet and complete silence on their ideas, opinions, wishes, and prospects with regard to the open rupture which has now apparently become inevitable. The authenticity of the letter attributed to the Duchesse d'Orléans being almost universally doubted here, it excited comparatively little interest. You have doubtless heard that the Duc de Nemours has explicitly denied its being genuine. There is no doubt, however, that the Duchesse d'Orléans entertains, and expresses the same sentiments as those contained in the letter in question, and remains wholly foreign to the movements of the faction.

A measure long talked of, is at last likely to be carried into execution, and meat fail to be highly popular, as tending greatly to diminish the price of meat. This is the establishment of a free commerce in butcher's meat, instead of the present system of a limited number of licenses being accorded—a system, which preventing, or at least greatly restricting, competition, tended to keep up prices, and to render the public much more dependent on the butchers than they will now be. The butchers, who, according to the existing law, have been compelled to lodge a certain sum as security in the *Caisse de Poissy* (the principal cattle-market for the supply of Paris), will have these sums restored to them, but are to obtain no indemnity for the loss of their privileges.

A ball took place at the Tuileries on Monday night. With the exception of the Court, and a certain number of official fêtes, the utmost dulness continues to reign here; the *corps diplomatique* keeps almost entirely in the background, as far as receptions go, excusing itself, on the ground of its grave preoccupations, and, as may be supposed, milliners and mercers, *coiffeurs* and *couturières*, not only complain loudly but take that occasion to send in an infinity of "little bills," accompanied sometimes by peremptory, sometimes by gently pressing appeals, alluding to "hardness of times," "disappointments," "payments to make," "stagnation of commerce"—all the pleas, genuine and apocryphal, employed on occasions where money is to be demanded. It appears probable, from a notice addressed by M. de Persigny to the family of M. Armand Bertin, that the *gérance* of the *Journal des Débats* will be accorded to M. Edouard Bertin, brother of the late director; the *rédauteur en chef*, or principal editor, will probably be M. de Sacy.

The Commission, headed by the Prince Napoleon, for the direction of the arrangements of the Palais d'Industrie is actively employed in the exercise of its functions, and has already made one important discovery; namely, that the said Palais is wholly unfitted, from its construction and dimensions, for the purpose for which it is intended; that it is doubtful if the various plans proposed for its improvement and enlargement are likely to make matters much better, and that it is highly probable that it will be found necessary to choose another situation for it! The Champ de Mars is one of the sites suggested. It is to be hoped that if the change is decided upon, the Commission will begin its examination, and make its discoveries a little sooner.

Louis Napoleon has conceded to the town of Versailles the fifty hectares of wood bordering the hill-side of Satory, for the purpose of esta-

blishing a promenade overlooking the town. The landscape-gardener of Trianon is occupied in drawing a plan for an extensive park or garden, for which the extreme beauty of the site is admirably adapted, to be constructed on the ground in question. The Conseil Municipal of Versailles has voted 10,000 francs for the works.

A meeting of artists has taken place for the purpose of opening subscriptions for the erection of a monument to the memory of the late M. Visconti.

Several provincial journals have received *avertissemens* within the last few days. The *Echo de l'Aveyron* has been struck by a second, which leaves it in a highly critical position.

The Emperor and Empress have sent two magnificent lots for the lottery which has just been organised for the institution of the *Petites Incurables*, established under the patronage of the Princesse Mathilde.

A grand charity ball is to take place at the Italian Opera, on the 15th of February, for the poor of the eighth and twelfth arrondissements, which are the poorest in Paris. It is expected that this ball will be extremely brilliant and well attended.

A singular spectacle presented itself a few days since to the public in the Champs Elysées. A man, with a contrivance consisting of a sort of network, containing some five or six hundred bladders, filled with hydrogen gas, attached by a band to his waist, descended the great avenue of the Champs Elysées, with an extraordinary celerity, running and bounding frequently a distance of fifteen and eighteen feet, at a time. As may be supposed, this aeronaut in the bud, attracted crowds which followed him in his descent and his course round the Palais d'Industrie; after having performed which, he returned to Beaumont, whence he and his machine had come.

MM. Celestin Nanteuil and August Lemoine, two of the most popular French artists, have taken their departure for Madrid, with the intention of making a collection of lithographic copies of the pictures of Velasquez, Ribera, and Murillo, in that capital.

Mlle. Cruvelli has had an immense success at the Grand Opéra (for which she has abandoned the Italian) in the "Huguenots," a success which does not, however, blind the more impartial critics to certain defects which she would do well to study and conquer. Possessed of a splendid voice, and a general feeling for dramatic effect, she yet wants that refinement of conception for the individuality of her parts—that feminine softness—that inspiration from nature—that tact for the representation of the finer shades of sentiment, which are essential to perfection, and without which her success will never be other than a vulgar triumph of the day. The Italian Opera has engaged as its *prima donna*, in the place of Mlle. Cruvelli, Mlle. Emilie Petrowitz, who is to make her debut in "Lucretia Borgia." Great things are expected from this young *artiste*, who has already made a most favourable sensation in some of the most aristocratic salons of Paris. Her position—that of grand-daughter to the celebrated Kara Georges, Prince and Hospodar of Servia—in themselves excite an interest which her remarkable talent completes. The Théâtre Français is preparing a treat for the public, in the shape of a new comedy, by Madame Emile de Girardin. The first representation will, probably, take place in about a fortnight.

The state of feeling in Paris, as regards the attitude of England in the Eastern question, is decidedly and rapidly improving. A French gentleman, in a note to the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, says:—"In France we consider the arming (*les armements*) and the preparations making by England for the vigorous prosecution of the war, as greatly exceeding our expectations. We begin now to have the most perfect reliance in the policy to be pursued by England. Even in the classes least disposed to do justice to the intentions of the Cabinet of St. James's, this feeling exists to an extent which I have never known. This real *entente cordiale* between the two nations ought not to pass without notice." On the other hand, a considerable number of political personages have hitherto kept themselves on the reserve, under the erroneous impression that Russia would ultimately yield; but the obstinacy of the Czar, and his evident determination to push matters to extremities, have greatly modified their opinions. Among the other trifles brought forward as proof of the isolation of the Czar, it was remarked that the Austrian Minister in Paris, the Baron de Hubner, hitherto one of the most assiduous attendants on the celebrated female politician, the Princess de Lieven, absented himself from her Sunday evening reception. It is said that Austria is rather alarmed at the proposed visit of the Emperor Nicholas to the Polish provinces, on the plea of putting down any symptoms of insurrection that might show themselves in that quarter. It is suspected that the Czar has other objects in view, and that he will try to discover what effect offers of concession to the Slavonian subjects of the Emperor of Austria might produce, in the event of the Austrian Government joining the other European Powers against the aggressions of Russia.

A splendid ball was given at the Palace of the Tuileries on Monday evening, which was attended by all the notabilities in Paris. The ball was opened by the Emperor, who danced with the Princess Mathilde, the Empress being *vis-à-vis*, with Lord Cowley as her partner. Among the guests, one of the most noticed, in consequence of the present state of political affairs, was M. de Kisseff. The fact is of little consequence in itself; for, as long as M. de Kisseff remains the representative of Russia in Paris, he will, of course, show himself at all the Court fêtes; but the mere fact of his presence undoubtedly assisted in the reaction on the Bourse to-day, and the speculators, to increase its good effect, added that the Russian Ambassador danced with the Empress—an addition which is not true. A great number of Englishmen were present at the ball; and, among them, Lord Gough, with whom both the Emperor and Empress conversed for a considerable time. The Emperor inquired a good deal about the veteran's campaigns in the East; and, alluding to the position of affairs with Russia, expressed the pleasure it gave him that England and France should be allies in so just a cause.

A council of superior officers was held a day or two ago, at the War-office. The object of this consultation was it is affirmed, to devise the best plan for the transport of a body of French troops, should circumstances render it necessary, to some part of the Turkish territory; and it is said that the whole of the railroad companies have received instructions to have means of transport ready at the shortest notice for troops. The evident object of giving such notice to all the companies is, that the particular direction in which they may be sent should not be known. General Canrobert is still, as before, spoken of as the Commander-in-Chief of the *corps d'armée*, and General Pelissier, the well-known African General, as his intended Chief of the Staff.

### GERMANY.

The semi-official *Prussian Correspondence* publishes an article respecting the excitement of the Money-market. After denying the rumours respecting the recall of the Russian Ambassadors from London and Paris, it states that nothing justifies the supposition that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg had resolved to reject the proposition of arrangement transmitted from Vienna. On the contrary, it alleges that there is good reason for believing that the Czar, out of regard for the friendship and mutual confidence existing between himself and the great German Powers, will not refuse to take into just consideration the conciliatory representations which have just been addressed from Berlin and Vienna to the Court of Russia.

The Berlin *Correspondence* contradicts in the most formal manner, a report which had been current in the capital for some days, that the King intended to abdicate in favour of his brother, the Prince of Prussia. It is said that the smaller states of the German Confederation have taken steps at Vienna and Berlin to induce Austria and Prussia to bring about a resolution of the Diet expressly confirming the neutrality of the Confederation on the Eastern question; it is even stated that the journey of M. de Beust, the Saxon Minister of State, to Berlin, is connected with this affair.

The latest accounts from Berlin state that the Second Chamber had, in recent sitting, adopted the treaty concluded with Oldenburg for the cession of a territory situate on the banks of the Jahde, and destined for the establishment of a Prussian military port. Only the Polish deputies voted against the treaty. It is rumoured that Russia has protested against the establishment of this port.

### SWEDEN.

The Royal Bill for reforming the Customs' Tariff was laid before the Diet on the 15th inst. The proposed modifications are in the direction of Free-trade, and have been well received in the Diet.

### TURKEY.

#### THE SULTAN'S REPLY TO THE NOTE OF THE FOUR POWERS.

The following is a copy of the reply of the Sublime Porte to the collective note of the Four Powers:—

#### TRANSLATION.

His Majesty the Sultan has perused with attention the British Ambassador's note of December 12, respecting the bases proposed for a treaty of peace, and identical with those of his colleagues, the representatives of France, Austria, and Prussia, sent in collectively on the same day, and it results therefrom that his Majesty the Emperor of Russia manifests pacific intentions.

The Sublime Porte has waged war solely in its own defence—in defence of its sacred rights and sovereignty—and as there is nothing to affect them in this proposal, it has been deemed expedient to adopt it with a view to the restoration of peace—his Imperial Majesty, moreover, being actuated in this circumstance by the highest consideration for his august allies by an ardent desire of conforming to their wishes, and by implicit faith in their councils.

Accordingly, on resuming the negotiations, the first point to establish will be the evacuation of the Principalities within the shortest possible delay; and the second, the renewal of the treaties, to which the Sublime Porte assents, in deference to the advice of the Allied Powers, and in the unvarying spirit of moderation by which it has been guided throughout in these transactions.

With regard to the religious privileges and immunities of the various non-Mussulman communities, subject to the Ottoman Government, these have been accorded in ancient times by the illustrious ancestors of his Imperial Majesty, and reconfirmed by himself in virtue of a *hatti-shérif* recently emanated to that effect. These grants and franchises, moreover, the Sublime Porte has been ever anxious to maintain—and will maintain perpetually—as has been long since solemnly proclaimed to all Europe by the promulgation of the *Tanzimat*. Moreover, should any one of those communities possess advantages unenjoyed by the others, and these desire to participate therein—the Ottoman Government, animated by sentiments of justice and impartiality, will never refuse to dispense equal rights and equal privileges to all. Neither can there be the slightest objection to notify the sincerity and loyalty of these intentions to every Government in Europe, and to furnish each—and necessarily the Cabinet of St. Petersburg—with a copy of the aforesaid firman.

The project of settlement, concerning the measures required to complete the decision relative to the Holy Places, will be accepted definitively.

Hence the Sublime Porte is ready to conclude a treaty of peace, in the manner traced out by its august Allies—and consents, accordingly, to appoint a plenipotentiary who, with a Russian plenipotentiary, will finally regulate this affair, and settle the terms of an armistice, in any neutral town at the choice of the Allied Powers—as soon as intelligence is received that the Court of St. Petersburg has acquiesced in these decisions.

In consequence of the many and various relations existing between Turkey and the European States, the Sublime Porte considers itself in every respect entitled to be admitted as a member of the European federation, and conformably with this situation it will be requisite to confirm and complete the treaty of 1841, and this result. It awaits with entire confidence in the good offices and solicitude of the Great Powers.

Forty days ought to suffice to make known the decision of the Russian Cabinet, and the Sublime Porte solicits its august Allies to direct their attention to that object.

Finally, with a view of ensuring to all classes of his subjects the blessings of justice and security, his Majesty the Sultan is most anxious to see in full vigour the enactments of the *Tanzimat*—and to introduce into all departments of state the requisite reforms and ameliorations—and to this end, has deigned to issue orders for considering and completing that most important object. This circumstance I feel most happy to announce, and it will afford, no doubt, the highest satisfaction to the friends and well wishers of the Ottoman empire.

Rebiulevel, 30, 1270. (Signed) MUSTAPHA RESCHID.

Detachments of recruits were arriving every day at Constantinople, and the preparations of the Turkish Government to carry on the war with vigour were incessant. The Pacha of Egypt has recently sent troops to man four batteries of artillery, of which one will be horse artillery. He has also sent 25,000 muskets; and he holds an additional corps of 12,000 men in readiness, to be sent the moment the Turkish Government chooses to call for it.

On the 8th instant the Seraskier inspected the first battalion of Cossacks. They were to commence their march on Schumla on the following Wednesday, and from thence they will proceed to Dobrodjia, a place colonised by the Cossacks. Their commander, Sadik Pacha, is a Pole. He goes with them, and is to organise thirty squadrons of Cossack cavalry. In his suite is the Roumelian Prince Stourza, who has recently been nominated as a Pacha. He is for the present to remain at Schumla, as hitherto the efforts to call out the Roumelians have not been very successful. General Wysocki, with his two aides-de-camp, Bielenski and Ruzski, have arrived at Constantinople. The formation of the Polish legion is still postponed, and the decision of the Porte will depend on the answer of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg to the collective proposition.

A Constantinople letter of the 9th, in the *Lloyd* of Vienna, states that the Russian ships of war which had been cruising in the Black Sea had entered the port of Sebastopol.

#### THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

Accounts from Constantinople up to the 9th inst. intimate that the news as to the movement of the fleets has not hitherto been very precise. It is known that they have gone in the direction of Trebizond. On the day the fleets entered the Black Sea, they met an Austrian steamer, which, having been examined according to usage by a French steamer, announced that it had seen some Russian ships of war going in the direction of Varna. On this information the French Admiral had detached a division, which he sent towards Varna. All the rest of the combined fleets continued their route in the direction of Trebizond. This news cannot be of any great importance in respect to the probability of an engagement, for the Admirals of the combined fleets have considered it proper to send notice to the Russian Admiralty of their entry. That fact would appear to show that measures had been taken to avoid the possibility of a conflict. The latest news from the Black Sea states that the French and English fleets sail separately, and that in coasting the Turkish territory they were nearly opposite to Sebastopol; while the Turkish vessels had gone ahead, and had already reached Sinope. The disembarking of the troops is to take place at Batoum, where it is supposed that some Russian ships are cruising. It is feared that they may oppose the disembarkation, and that a collision may then take place. It is probable, however, that the Russians will take the hint given to them by the Admirals, and withdraw to Sebastopol before the arrival of the combined fleets.

A telegraphic despatch from Hermannstadt announces that Prince Gortschakoff had arrived at Radowan on the 21st. The concentration of General Aurep's corps was completed, and it was expected that a fresh movement against Kalafat would soon be made. The reported movements of the Russians on or across the Danube at Reni, Matschin, or Silestria, are as yet of little military importance. It is estimated that the capture of Kalafat (if captured, which seems doubtful) will cost the Russians at least 10,000 men. There is much discouragement among the troops in consequence.

A letter from Vienna of the 20th, to the *Cologne Gazette*, says:—News has arrived here to-day to the effect that on the morning of the 13th, the Russians passed the Danube near Matschin, and engaged in a very brisk combat with the Turks. The result was not known at the departure of the courier at one in the afternoon. Matschin was said to be in flames, and the carnage terrible.

The *Trieste Gazette* states that the restrictions imposed by Prince Gortschakoff on neutral vessels on the Lower Danub have rendered navigation there impossible, and that Austrian commerce will suffer more than any other nation.

Private letters from the coast of the Black Sea announce that the Russians were making very significant dispositions at Sebastopol and along the whole south-eastern coast of Crimea. They were organising on the different strategic points defensive works and coast batteries for sweeping the sea; they had just altered the direction of the light-houses erected for guiding ships through dangerous passes, and to secure anchorage. Finally, they had just given orders to those battalions which form the vanguard of the military colony, and which has its centre of organisation in the province, to enter the town as a reinforcement to the regular garrison, which had before acquired its complete war complement. The rumour of the last decisions adopted at Constantinople for the entrance of the squadrons has reached all the Russian ports in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azoff, where it has produced a regular panic. There are the best grounds for it, since Russia has lavished all her efforts on Sebastopol, and neglected the defence of the other points so eminently useful for her commercial interests.

On the 5th inst. a Russian war-schooner, surprised outside of the canal, whither it had been driven by stress of weather, was brought into the Bosphorus. It was in quest of the Russian fleet, which, the captain stated, must be somewhere off Batoum. This schooner had ammunition on board, and a crew of twenty-seven men. Either, then, the Russian fleet is separated into two divisions, or one of the two versions above given is incorrect. One thing is clear, that their fleet is at sea, and that the allied fleet will be sure to meet with it somewhere.

The reinforcements which are on board the Turkish squadron are in-



tended for the army of Asia, and particularly for the garrisons of Batoum and Cheffketi, which are threatened by the enemy. The latter fort, which was captured by the Turks at the commencement of hostilities, is now in great need of provisions and stores. Although it has hitherto victoriously repulsed all the attempts which the Russians have made to retake it, it has lost a part of its garrison in these combats, and consumed a great part of its provisions and ammunition. Open as it now is on the land side, in consequence of the reverses which the Turkish army of Asia has met with, and deprived of all hope of assistance on that side, it waits with impatience for the arrival of the reinforcements which have been promised it by sea.

A good deal has been said about the respective situation of the two fleets as far as regards the command. This situation is described by the French papers as very simple. On ordinary occasions each squadron will retain its independence. In case of an action, the command-in-chief belongs by right to the officer senior in rank. If we are well informed, Admiral Hamelin is seven years the senior in rank to Admiral Dundas, and if the squadrons are to engage the Russian fleet, it is the French flag that will have the honour of directing the blows.

The fleets, it is generally rumoured, will return to their stations at Beyoot after a cruise of two or three weeks; but this, of course, it is impossible to determine, and all will depend necessarily on the course of events. The Russian ships will scarcely dare any longer to venture out on their depredations; although, according to the reports of the Consuls at Trebizond, not later than ten days ago one of their steam-frigates entered and sounded the port of Batoum. If this information be correct, the massacre of Sinope, it would appear, has filled with apprehension and terror the whole coast populations.

It is said that the Governor of Sebastopol contented himself with answering to the notification of the entry of the fleets into the Black Sea, that he was astonished at so unforeseen a communication, that he could not understand what they wanted of him, Russia being at war only with Turkey; and that, consequently, he could not say what he meant to do under the circumstances.

Accounts from Sebastopol of the 10th, received through Bucharest, state that all the Russian ships are kept close in port. Small steamers keep the Russian Admiral well informed of the movements of the French and English fleets. On the 7th two steamers from the fleets brought an official message for the Russian Admiral. Since that date neither the French nor English flag had been seen. There was a violent storm on the 6th.

Letters from Odessa of the 12th state that no French or English war ships had been seen there.

#### THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

There can be no doubt that the Russians have now regularly assumed the offensive along the whole line of operations. On the 13th, the day on which Prince Gortschakoff left Bucharest for Radovan, with two infantry regiments and several detachments of hussars and Cossacks, General Liders attacked Matschin and its two forts on several sides. The transport of heavy artillery to Giurgevo leads us to suppose that an attack is about to be made on Rutchuk. On the night of the 12th, the Turks made feigned attempts to cross the Danube at Kalarash, opposite Silistria, and at Hirsowa, in the Dobrukscha. According to a letter of the 7th, from Giurgevo, the Russians have now two strong redoubts, armed with 12 36-pounders, on the dam leading to the town. For some time it was feared that the ice would become so thick as to allow of a sally on the part of the garrison of Rutchuk; but now even the floating ice has disappeared. A part of the battering train has been sent from Giurgevo to the west; and on the 5th, a steamer had towed two gunboats up the river. It is probable that the Turks at Sistow did not permit these vessels to pass unmolested, as a heavy cannonade was heard in that direction on the 6th. On the 10th, the whole of the garrison of Sophia left for Widdin. For the duration of the war, the provinces of Bessarabia, Cherson, and Tauris are to be divided into two Governments, separated by the Bug. Prince Menschikoff commands on the left bank of that river, and General Osten-Sacken on the right. Both Governments have been declared in a state of siege, and will be garrisoned during the war by two separate army corps. It is believed here that the Russians fear that when war is declared, the Western Powers will land troops in the above-mentioned provinces.

The Turkish Government, on the recommendation of General Baraguey d'Hilliers, has decided on establishing a line of electric telegraph from Constantinople to Schumla. It is also in contemplation to purchase in Europe a certain number of steam-vessels.

The *Augsburg Gazette* contains what it is pleased to call an impartial account of the battle of Citare "from the Danube." The engagement is described as having terminated entirely in favour of the Russians; but the following imprudent remark spoils the whole:—

Unfortunately, the Russians have but 26,000 men in Lesser Wallachia, and the Turks, who are twice as strong, fight behind intrenchments backed by Widdin.

The *Vienna Lloyd* of the 17th publishes a letter from the Principalities, of the 10th inst. Its correspondent writes:—

The insurrection of the peasantry in Little Wallachia is at an end; but not without a previous melancholy catastrophe. Some Cossacks were sent to Saltsha, a place not far from Kalafat, to fetch away some stores of hay and provender wanted for the Russian camp. The peasants, however, and the Wallachian militia (borderers), fired at them and drove them out of the village. Some companies of infantry, accompanied by some light horse, instantly proceeded to the spot, where everything had been prepared for a serious resistance, the proximity of the Turkish army having been too much relied on. The village was surrounded and attacked. The unequal combat was terminated by the total destruction of the place, and the loss of 60 human lives. The peasants and militia that hastened from all parts to support their countrymen were easily routed and dispersed. After that the neighbouring village of Pojan, although deserted by its inhabitants, was destroyed.

#### RUSSIA.

Advices direct from St. Petersburg, of the 17th, state that a ukase has been issued calling the seamen of the Baltic fleet to rejoin the ships by the 15th of March. The concentrations are to take place at Cronstadt, Revel, and Swaborg.

A bulletin published at St. Petersburg on the 17th inst., shows that the Russian troops in Asia are in winter quarters, within their own frontiers, and that at present no military operations are in progress.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that it is intended to form a depot of 150,000 soldiers at Moscow, to leave 100,000 in Poland, station another 100,000 in columns among the provinces of the Baltic and in Finland, and raise the army on the Danube to 200,000 and that of Asia to 100,000. The persons best acquainted with Russian statistics, believe that these are merely figures of speech, and that Russia will have great difficulty in bringing together more than half the numbers here set down.

The *Cassel Gazette* announces that the Emperor of Russia has demanded twenty-five millions from the Warsaw Bank for the eventualities of war.

The *Vossische Zeitung* of Berlin is informed that the 50,000,000f. deposited in the Bank of France to the credit of Russia have been withdrawn.

Hamburg letters allude to reports that the Czar is about to issue paper money to the extent of sixty millions of paper roubles, to meet the war expenditure. The *Vienna Lloyd* of the 22nd confirms this statement.

A letter from St. Petersburg, in the *Constitutionnel*, relates the reports which were current in political circles in that city as to the attitude of the Czar. On hearing of the entrance of the fleets into the Black Sea, he is said to have evinced the most perfect calmness. In the evening, when talking in his circle of courtiers, composed of the highest personages and superior officers, he is said to have remarked, after announcing to them the entrance of the fleets, "When battle is offered to Russia, she always accepts it; she can wear mourning for a fleet, but not for the national honour. I expected the revolution come to by France and Great Britain; I am not, therefore, taken by surprise: every order has been given beforehand in anticipation of an act which, by breaking treaties, releases me from the obligations of them." It appears certain, in fact, that the Emperor asked Prince Menschikoff whether he could make head against the formidable squadrons, the movements of which he expected in the Black Sea? The Grand Admiral said to have replied: "Conquer them? No. Fight and die to the last? Yes." This answer is too characteristic of that haughty personage to be at all doubted. The same letter from which we take these details adds, that the Emperor Nicholas, while showing himself resolved not to yield, has testified his regrets at being in discord with the Sovereign who has saved Europe and civilisation from such great perils.

The *Cologne Gazette* publishes the following:—

PETERSBURG, Jan. 19.—Some days ago the Majors-General Prince Galizin and Bogdanowitch, from Moscow, and Prince Woronzoff, from Tiflis, arrived here. The presence of so many military strangers, especially that of the last-named general, is supposed to hold some relation with deliberations that are being held daily in the highest quarters concerning the Turkish war. The entire absence of recent official intelligence

from the seat of war has produced here a depressed feeling, and given rise to a host of rumours and surmises. People talk, of course with the greatest caution, of new combats, and they believe, since no details whatever are suffered to ooze out, that the issue of them has not been favourable for the Russian arms. For the rest, every man here is convinced, that the last project of intermediation has not the remotest chance of being received here.

#### PERSIA.

The *Independence* of Brussels publishes a telegraphic despatch from Trieste, founded on intelligence brought by the Overland India Mail, in which it is said that the Persian port of Bushire is blockaded by a British corvette, and that a schooner and war-steamer have also been sent into the Persian Gulf.

#### DENMARK.

It is said that the answer of Russia on the declaration of neutrality arrived on the 20th inst. Russia refuses her consent to it, and demands that Denmark should side with one of the parties. The envoys of Austria and Prussia were sent for by the King. The Ministers of England and France had previously had an audience relative to the same matter.

In the sitting of the Danish Folkething of the 17th, the Government announced that it intended adjourning to better times the presentation of the common constitution for the whole monarchy, in the hope that in the interim irritation and prejudices would have calmed down.

#### SPAIN.

A telegraphic despatch from Madrid, of the 18th inst., brought information of a *coup d'état* in that capital. Generals Concha and O'Donnell had been exiled to the Canaries, and the resignations of a number of generals had been accepted.

The Minister of Finance was also said to have left the Cabinet. The two generals now banished were the head and front of the Opposition, and had signed their names first to a memorial to the Queen, which also bore the signatures of MM. Gonzales Bravo, Rios Rosas, and Generals Infante and Madon, representing the situation as full of danger, and demanding the immediate assembling of the Cortes.

A despatch on the 19th says:—"New organic measures, remodelling the Senate and the electoral law, are spoken of. A great reform, for good or evil, seems to be determined upon; yet nothing very definite appears to be settled."

#### AMERICA.

By the steamer *Africa* we have advices from New York to the 11th inst. There had been another large fire in New York on the 8th, by which the Metropolitan-hall and Laffarge-house had been totally destroyed. The loss was estimated at \$500,000.

A very destructive fire occurred, also, at Portland, Maine, on the 7th ult., the Custom-house, Post-office, and nearly half a million dollars' worth of property having been destroyed.

The political news was not of much interest.

From Jamaica our advices are to the 27th ult. The news is not of much importance. There was scarcely any new feature in the political news of the colony, the Legislature having adjourned to the 17th of January. The members of the Legislature had determined to appoint two or three members from the House and one from the Council to form a Cabinet, or Executive Council, by whom were to be proposed all the important measures of finance and general policy.

From the Sandwich Islands advices by the same channel are to the 19th of November. The subject of annexation to the United States continued to be agitated. The mass of the people were favourable to it.

#### THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The steamer *Bombay* arrived at half past eight a.m. on Monday, in 116 hours from Alexandria, which she left on the 17th January. The latest dates from India and China are—Calcutta, Dec. 20; Madras, Dec. 24; Bombay, Dec. 29; Hong-Kong, Dec. 11. The political news are of interest. The Resident at Bushire had reported that 60,000 Persians had reached that neighbourhood, with the object of invading the Pachtalik of Bagdad. An expeditionary force, naval and military, is being rapidly organised by the Bombay Government, to carry out any orders it may receive from England or from the Governor-General. The important territory of Berar has lapsed to the British Government by the death of its ruler without issue. The Governor-General of India left Calcutta on the 9th December, for Burmah. A conspiracy at Rangoon was frustrated on the 23rd November, by the foresight of the British authorities.

Quietness prevails at Amoy, and the constituted authorities have been restored. The insurgent army had at the end of October reached Ginken, about sixty miles from Peking. Shanghai is still in the hands of the rebels.

#### AUSTRALIA.

By the *Hurricane*, which sailed from Melbourne on November 3rd, we have advices to that date.

The *Hurricane* has brought gold on freight amounting to 54,000 ounces in weight, irrespective of a large quantity in the hands of her passengers, who number fifty in all.

This vessel reports the arrival at Australia of the *Great Britain* and the *Hellespont* steam-ships. The gold-fields were still very prolific in yield. Provisions were very high in price and labour scarce, wages being as high as previously reported.

### PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

#### RUSSIAN AGGRESSION.

A crowded and enthusiastic meeting was held in the Town-hall, Southampton, on Monday evening—at which the Mayor presided—to "take into consideration the important question of the unprovoked aggression of the Emperor of Russia against Turkey." The first resolution was moved by Mr. T. Falvey, who, in a long and able speech, reviewed the origin and progress of Russian policy in the East, and explained its probable future bearing, if unopposed, upon the commercial and political interests of this country. The four first resolutions, all of which appear to have passed without opposition, were to the following effect:—

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the insolent demands of the Emperor of Russia, to exercise a protectorate over the Christian subjects of the Sultan, are not only incompatible with the honour and integrity of the Turkish Empire, but opposed to the laws of nations and the just rights of independent States.

"That the present war in the East has been caused solely by the Emperor of Russia, whose invasion of the Danubian Principalities, in violation of treaties and public law, was an outrage which the Sultan was fully justified in resisting by all the means in his power.

"That the four great Powers of Europe—England, France, Austria, and Prussia—who were parties to the treaty of 1841, made for the special purpose of securing the independence of the Turkish empire, having called upon the Emperor of Russia to withdraw his armies from the Principalities, and he having decidedly refused to do so, those Powers are bound in honour and the interests of civilisation to aid the Sultan, if necessary, by force of arms in expelling him; and also, in entering into any new arrangements, to take measures for securing the future tranquillity of Europe by a well defined treaty, which shall have for one of its conditions the opening of the Black Sea at all times to the ships of all nations.

"That the cordial union now existing between the English and French Governments, as well as between the people of those two great nations, affords us the most sincere satisfaction, and that we highly approve the decision by which the combined fleets are now cruising for the protection of Turkey in the Black Sea."

A fifth resolution was passed authorising the Mayor to embody the above resolutions in a memorial to her Majesty; and it was also agreed that copies of the resolutions should be forwarded to the Emperor of France, and to the Sublime Porte.

MEETING AT DERBY.—A public meeting took place in the Town-hall, Derby, on Wednesday, for the purpose of expressing admiration at the noble and determined resistance offered by the Turkish nation to the encroachment of Russia. There were upwards of 1000 persons in the room. Mr. T. Madeley, the Mayor, presided; and was supported by Mr. M. T. Bass, M.P. for Derby; Mr. J. Moss, ex-Mayor, and other influential gentlemen. Letters of apology were read from the county members and Mr. L. Heyworth, the other borough member, all of whom expressed their warm sympathy for the object of the meeting. The chairman, after expressing his belief in the iniquitous tendency of all wars, proceeded to observe that "no stone had been left unturned" to use a homely phrase, by the Governments of England and France to bring about a peaceful solution of this question. On this ground surely the Peace Society would have nothing to complain of. If the English and French fleets had entered the Black Sea when the Russians occupied the Principalities he believed that the massacre of Sinope would not have taken place (Cheers). Mr. Bates, in suitable terms, proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting, in common with the great majority of the people of this country, has viewed with feelings of indignation the lawless violence manifested by the Russian Autocrat, in his unjust and aggressive attacks upon the rights and independence of our faithful ally, Turkey. That we consider this country bound by every principle of honour and of duty, no less than by an impe-

rative sense of what is due to our own interests, to adopt active, energetic, and effective measures (in conjunction with France) to co-operate with the Turks in destroying the fleets, armies, and fortresses of the aggressor, allowing them to reimburse themselves at his expense for the cost of the war, and affording to those nations which have been, by his former treachery and violence, deprived of their nationality, an opportunity of recovering the same, and re-establishing themselves in kingdoms under their own national Governments. That any temporising policy carried on by the aid of secret diplomacy will tend to dishonour the British nation, be destructive of her material interests, and injure the cause of liberty, justice, and humanity throughout Europe" (Cheers). Mr. Parkinson, after dwelling upon the topics embraced in the above resolution, seconded it, and it was carried by acclamation. Mr. Bass, M.P., having addressed the meeting at some length, an address of sympathy to the Sultan was adopted; after which the meeting separated.

A FACTORY SNOVED UP.—On the night of the snow-storm, the mill hands of J. Smedley, Esq., Lea, in Derbyshire, left, or rather attempted to leave, at the usual time in the evening; but, owing to the bitterness of the night, the slippery state of the roads and paths that they had to traverse in the dark, and through the blinding snow, numbers turned back to ask shelter for the night. In this dilemma, their kind-hearted employer immediately resolved to scheme night accommodation for all whose homes were more than a mile distant, and to as many of the female hands and aged beds as might think well to stop, live where they might, and two beds were immediately improvised under the superintendence of Mr. Smedley. One accommodated thirty men and lads, and the other forty women and girls. A wholesome and nourishing supper was provided for each lodger. On the following day a new difficulty presented itself in the discovery that the roads in some directions were completely blocked, and all communication with distant homes cut off, so that something further had to be devised in regard to the victualling department; and Mr. Smedley having an abundant supply of Scotch meal, kept two persons at work three days in baking oat-cakes, which, together with soup and meat, formed the rations at dinner time, the copper and mash tub being in requisition morning and evening. On the fourth day most of the hands got home, but all expressed regret at leaving such snug winter quarters.

STRIKES IN YORKSHIRE.—We regret to learn that there now exist several strikes in Yorkshire. The linen bleachers of Barnsley and neighbourhood struck, on Tuesday last, for shorter hours and an advance of wages. The colliers of Crigglestone remain out, and those of Adwalton and Birstal are threatening to strike. At Keighley, the weavers, after a long and painful turn-out, have resumed work at their former wages.

STRANGE SCENE IN A CHURCH.—On the publication of the banns of marriage on Sunday, at the village church of Halton, adjacent to the fashionable watering-place of Weston-super-Mare, near Bristol, between a young farmer of the parish and his intended bride, some consternation was created in the congregation by a gentleman rising, and in a quiet, but firm tone of voice, saying, "I enter my solemn protest against the contemplated marriage of the parties. The would-be bridegroom is under promise of marriage to another respectable young woman, who has a prior claim on him." It seems the young man had, for some years courted the former schoolmistress of the village, but on her removal to another part of the county, he became so enamoured of the pretty face of her successor, that after a few months' attention he popped the question and was accepted. In addition to this public *exposé* thus recorded, it is said the faithless swain will shortly be subject to an action for breach of promise of marriage.

SHIPBUILDING IN SUNDERLAND AND NEW YORK.—The following figures show the number of ships built at Sunderland and New York during the past year:—Sunderland: Ships, 153; tonnage, 68,735. New York: Ships, 88; tonnage, 46,479. The excess of vessels built at Sunderland over its Transatlantic rival being sixty-five vessels, and 22,256 tons of shipping, actually more than the entire ships built on the West in 1843.

A SHAM NOBLEMAN.—A person of gentlemanly exterior, visited Laurence's Terminus Hotel, Brighton, one day last week, and after running up an account for £13s. 5d., engaged a fly, proceeded in search of apartments in the Marine-parade, and gave orders to the railway officials to forward his horses and groom, upon their arrival from London, to the riding-master's stables, upon whom he also called, and engaged a two-stall stable. He then visited the German-place Boarding-house, where he had some refreshment, ordered a private sitting and bed room, and fires to be lighted, and introduced himself as Baron Muncaster. The housekeeper of the hotel having asked him for a reference, he gave her the name of the Countess of Muncaster, and wrote down the name of his agent, "J. Tear, Esq., 44, Hatton-garden, London," who, he said, had succeeded Messrs. Cox and Son, the marine agents. He then borrowed 30s. of the waiter for two or three minutes, and left the hotel, but, instead of remaining in Brighton, he went off to the railway and took a first-class ticket for London. He was followed, apprehended, and taken before the magistrates, when he turned out to be only a commoner. The plea of insanity was set up, and a long defence, written by the prisoner, was read, stating that his head became affected while he was serving in India as a Lieutenant, and that he had lost his wife and child within eighteen months. He begged to be allowed to settle with the prosecutor, alleging that if he was sent for trial his future hopes would be blasted; he should lose his commission, and all kindred and friendship would be lost to him for ever. The statement was signed "Lieutenant Pennington, R.T.L.M." An application to bail the prisoner was granted—himself in £200, and two sureties of £100 each.

CHURCH STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.—On Friday week, during a terrific storm of thunder and lightning at Cokermouth, the electric fluid struck the tall spire of the new church, which replaces the ancient building destroyed by fire a few years ago, and was on the point of being opened for the purposes of divine worship. The huge cross and ornamental stonework which surmounted the pinnacle, were thrown through the roof of the edifice into the chancel below, which was decorated with encaustic tiles and sculptured stonework. The building has been so much injured that the necessary repairs will delay its opening for several months.

INTIMIDATION OF WORKMEN.—Symptoms of a lingering disposition among the lower class of artisans to resort to violence, and of the moral intimidation inseparable from trades' unions, are seen in the London police reports of the week. On Monday, the magistrate at Bow-street had to decide a case arising out of the shoemakers' strike. Cornelius Sullivan was charged with a brutal assault on William Humphries. Sullivan had been formerly in the employment of a Mr. Kendal, a shoemaker in Drury-lane, but had joined the strike for wages. Humphries had accepted the work at the old rate. It appeared from the evidence that the men on strike regularly laydail the new hands when returning from their work, for the purpose of assaulting them. The policeman called as a witness stated that he saw the prisoner knock down the complainant on Saturday night, several of the defendant's companions joining him in the attack. The prisoner was remanded, the magistrate refusing to deal with the case summarily. William Tanner, a stonemason in the employment of a contracting firm at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, was summoned on Saturday, for having used threats and intimidation, in order to compel a workman, named Wilcock, to belong to the Masons' Union. The offence was fully proved. Amongst the witnesses was the foreman of the masons, who was reproved by the magistrate for yielding to the intimidation of the union, and dismissing the complainant from employment.

FOREIGN SOAPS.—The Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury have directed the Commissioners of Customs to be acquainted that, in framing the Tariff of 1853, it was the intention of their Lordships that soap only of such high quality, and in such ornamental form, that it would be classed with perfumery, should be charged with the duty of 2d. the lb.; and that all other soap should be admitted at 8d. the cwt., and a general order has been issued to the several ports throughout the kingdom to that effect.

### THE HOSPODARS OF MOLDAVIA AND WALLACHIA.

PRINCE BARBO BIBESCO STIRBEY, Hospodar of Wallachia, dethroned by the Russians a few months ago, is the elder brother of Prince George Bibesco, dethroned during the revolutions of 1848. The brothers are of comparatively obscure origin, their grandfather having been a horse-trainer. Their father entered at an early age into the service of one of the most considerable families in the country, where he soon distinguished himself by his industry and intelligence. Under the protection of influential persons in the state, he advanced rapidly in position, and ultimately succeeded in obtaining a government situation. Previous to the year 1816 the inhabitants of Wallachia received their education through the medium of the ancient Greek, as the Hungarians do through that of the Latin; but, as this practice, when too exclusive, is found to be essentially at variance with the proper development of the mental faculties, the brothers Bibesco were sent to Paris, to go through a course of studies more in accordance with the notions that prevail in other parts of Europe. On their return to their own country they were received with marked esteem, on account of their brilliant attainments, and were employed in the public service under the Princes Ghika. They have been accused of taking advantage of this unlooked-for kindness, to betray their patrons, and sell their services to the





PRINCE STIRBEY, HOSPODAR OF WALLACHIA.



PRINCE GHIKA, HOSPODAR OF MOLDAVIA.

Russian Consulate-General. It was also asserted in Moldavia, at the time of the occupation of the Principalities in 1848, that it was chiefly through the instrumentality of Barbo Bibesco Stirbey that Russia was enabled to obtain possession of, and carry away, the archives of the Principalities. However this may be, neither he nor his brother appears to have gained anything by the treachery of which they were accused, as they became successively the victims of Russian policy.

Prince Stirbey, on learning that the Emperor of Russia had accorded to him an annual pension of 1000 ducats on the ground that he had resigned, energetically protested against it; and he has repeated the terms of the letter which he addressed, at the moment of his departure, to the Administrative Council—a letter by which he formally declared that he only went away provisionally, and until he should receive new orders. At the present moment, the Russians treat Moldo Wallachia as a conquered province about to be annexed to their Empire, and exercise all the powers belonging to sovereign authority.

Prince Stirbey has now attained his sixtieth year. He is tall and slender, and in the enjoyment of robust health. His physiognomy bears the traces of a certain *finesse*; but he has not that refinement of manners which distinguishes high society in his native country. The Prince is, at present, a refugee in Vienna.

PRINCE GREGORY GHIKA is descended from twenty-two Royal ancestors, all Sovereigns of Moldavia and Wallachia. He was educated in Germany and France; and it was the liberal ideas which he there imbibed that brought him into collision with the Beys, or Pachas, whom the Porte, on the perfidious suggestion of Russia, had sought, in the "Phanar" of Constantinople, to impose as Governors on the Danubian provinces. In 1849, however, the Porte restored to the Principalities—wearied of the yoke of what were called the "Beys Phanariotes"—their ancient right of electing a Hospodar from among their native Princes.

Gregory Ghika appeared to the Turkish Government the proper person to fill this high office, and the most capable of obliterating from the minds of the Moldavians the remembrance of the preceding Administrations. He was accordingly invested with the Hospodarate, on the dethronement of Prince Michael Stourdza in consequence of the events in 1848. Among the other acts of patriotism which he performed, and which reflect so much glory on his administration, may be particularly cited, the establishment of national schools, with the view of reviving the ancient and not defunct spirit of Roumanic nationality. Animated by an ardent patriotism, and sustained by the purest motives, he had often to struggle against deeply-rooted abuses, which he was not always able to overcome. The ominous mission of Prince Menschikoff to Constantinople, and the unmistakeable signs that were the precursors of a Russian occupation of the Principalities, caused him great perplexity and annoyance. His health, at the same time, received a most alarming shock, which was attributed by his friends to the operation of a slow poison. He was forced to resign temporarily his high functions, and retire from the capital. A trial at law ensued, in which were implicated some of the most important personages in the Principality, and which raised a corner of the veil that had hitherto concealed the wounds of his unhappy country. Three months afterwards he returned to his estates, but it was to witness the entry of the Russian troops—an event which he had foreseen at the first outbreak of the differences provoked by Prince Menschikoff. This disguised invasion created insoluble difficulties to Prince Ghika, who, while the acknowledged vassal of the Porte, was forced to remain passive in the face of an armed invasion of the Muscovites. He finally, however, out of respect for the rights of the Sultan, quitted the soil which he could no longer defend. Prince Ghika is at present at Vienna, surrounded by his family and friends. The Prince has been twice married. His second wife was the daughter of one of those Boyards, who forestalling events by fifty years en-

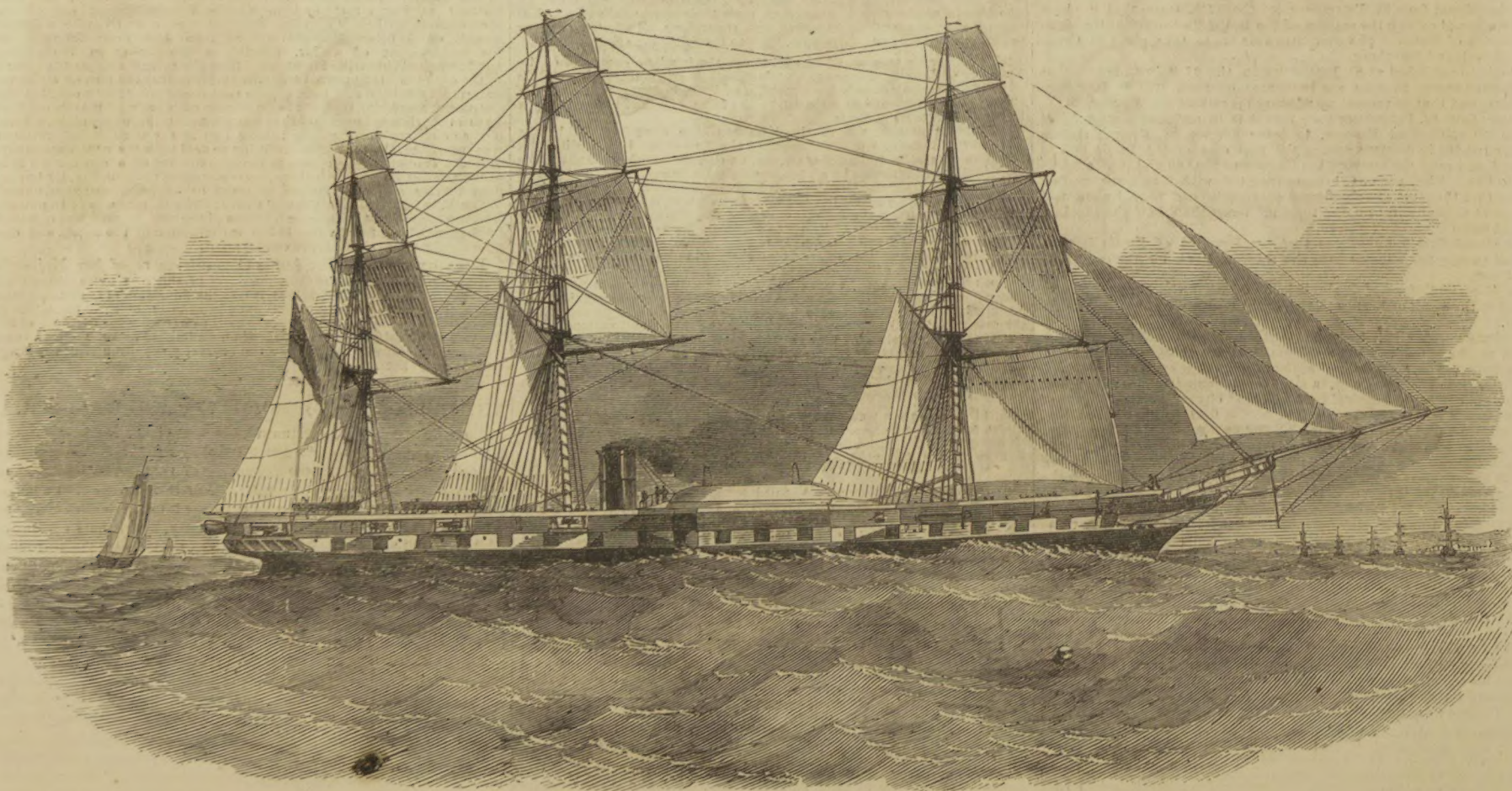
deavoured to persuade Napoleon I. to emancipate Moldavia from the unwholesome, if not fatal, protection of the Czars.

Prince Ghika is fifty years of age. He is the very type of Moldavian elegance and courtesy. He dresses in the European style, in common with the principal Boyards of Moldavia and Wallachia. It is only twenty-five years since this custom was first introduced, when the long Oriental robes of the nobility were definitively replaced by military uniforms. Prince Ghika has worn both costumes with equal honour and distinction.

#### H.M. STEAM-FRIGATE "RETRIBUTION."

THE *Retribution* steam-frigate having been selected to proceed to Sebastopol to demand the release of the British engineers in the service of the Porte, captured by the Russians at the murderous battle of Sinope, is the first ship of the British squadron which may be said to have earned a historic reputation in the affairs now pending in the East. Nor are we surprised at the selection, the Captain, the Hon. J. R. Drummond being a good linguist, and a man of conciliating manners and admirable tact. It was for these considerations, mainly, that during the summer after the arrival of the Anglo-French fleet at Besika Bay, the *Retribution* was forwarded to Constantinople, whence she afterwards proceeded to Therapia on the Bosphorus, where she remained until despatched on her present important mission.

We have been favoured, by Lieut. Montague O'Reilly, with a correct drawing of this vessel. The *Retribution* (ominous name for Russian ears) was designed by Sir William Symonds, and built at Chatham in 1844. She is about 1641 tons, and 400-horse power; mounts 28 guns of a very persuasive size, and has a crew of 300—officers, men, and boys included; who appear, like all the other ships under the judicious management of Admiral Dundas, desirous to "prove the mettle of their pasture."



H.M. STEAM-FRIGATE, "RETRIBUTION."





MOLLAHS PROCEEDING TO ATTEND A COUNCIL, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

## MOLLAHS PROCEEDING TO COUNCIL.

ULEMA is a collective name of the learned men in Turkey, who form a corporation, organised as early as the time of Mahomed II., the conqueror of Constantinople. Although, strictly, the term (wise men) is of very wide acceptance, including priests, jurists, and divines of all sorts, as well as the monks, in the sense of the organisation spoken of, it comprehends only the professors of divinity, of law, and of some other sciences, or, rather, of the Koran, which, with the Mahomedan, is the fountain of all knowledge. No one can become a professor (*muderris*) or judge (*kadi*) except a member of the Ulema. The learned individuals comprising the Ulema are called *Mollahs*. The chief of the Ulema body is called the Mufti, or Cheik Islam, and his political power is very great—greater even than that of the Grand Vizier, inasmuch as a deliberative authority is superior to one merely administrative. No great measure of state policy can be undertaken without his sanction, which he gives as the head of the Council of the Ulema, which he assembles for the purpose of deliberation whenever he sees occasion, as has occurred once or twice during the important negotiations which have occupied the attention of the Divan during the last six or eight months.

## SKETCH IN THE STREETS OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

AMONGST other sketches which we have recently received from our artist at Constantinople, is the spirited street-scene which we engrave. In the front are women shopping; on the left is a fair specimen of a small grocery, or tobacco-shop; and in the rear is a Pacha mounted on horseback, and near him a water-carrier plying lustily at his trade. The whole is a scene of bustling untidy confusion, which can be met with nowhere else than in an Oriental city.

The ladies being the prominent features in our present sketch, we will take the opportunity of making a few observations upon their *toilette de promenade*.

The dress of the Turkish females, when going abroad, is by no means becoming; indeed, it is not intended to be so—all the personal attractions of the fair creatures being reserved for home. When they do go forth to shop, or to mosque, or to the bath, they all wear one common shapeless costume; the chief component parts of which are a pair of full—immensely full—trousers, a jacket with large sleeves, a white muslin handkerchief round the throat; and over the back a square and scanty cloak, called the *feridjee*, so ingeniously constructed as entirely to conceal the figure of the wearer, making young and old

look all shapeless alike. The colour of the cloak and trousers varies; but for the former, bright greens, oranges, browns, and russet reds, seem to prevail. The face, all but the eyes, is ingeniously concealed by means of a double veil of muslin—the *yashmac*—the upper part of which is bound across the forehead, the under part resting on the nose and under the chin. These muslin helmets are sometimes very thin—the old women very often sporting the thinnest—revealing the complexion and features through them. But the effect is always disagreeable; the nose being depressed and the mouth compressed in a way to distort and harden the expression. When the wearer wants to eat, drink, or smoke, the chin-covering is drawn down. Stockings being unknown here, the feet are invariably plunged into bright yellow shapeless boots, made without soles, which come loosely up a little above the ankles; and over these a sort of golashe, consisting of a thick sole, with a small tip of yellow leather in front, to balance it on the toe: all this leads to that slovenly slipshod gait which, to the eye of the European, is anything but agreeable. In very muddy times, such as that which prevailed when our artist took his sketch, a very high pair of pattens are worn, formed of wood, with loop of tin (not leather), to hold the foot: the same description of pattens are also used in the baths, to paddle about the wet floor in.



SKETCH IN THE STREETS OF CONSTANTINOPLE.



## ARMY CLOTHING.

A writer, signing himself "a Clothing Colonel," has objected to an article which appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 17th of December, last, under the above head. He asserts that the statements therein made are incorrect; affirming that the profit accruing to colonels of regiments at home from "off-reckonings" is generally less than £600 per annum, instead of being £929. It may be remembered that the estimate published in this Journal had reference to a battalion consisting of eight hundred rank and file, with the due proportion of sergeants, buglers, or drummers. These furnished a total of nine hundred and four men. At the present period, the establishment is fixed at nine hundred and thirteen, being an increase of ten privates, and decrease of one bugler or drummer, thereby making an augmentation of nine soldiers to a corps. This addition gives the Colonel £932 4s. 10d., instead of £929 1s. 4d.

The previous article specified that the saving on clothing was not all clear gain. From that amount the accoutrements must be furnished, the cost being deducted from the emolument reaped by the issue of inferior coats and trousers. Should the average cost of accoutrements and incidental expenses on the clothing amount to £132 4s. 10d. annually, which would be amply sufficient, there must be a saving of at least £800 to the General. Were the sum doubled in favour of the gallant officers who have devoted the greater part both of fortune and existence in the service of their country, they would be far from being too well remunerated. But such recompense should not be bestowed at the expense of the soldier's comfort. Misappropriation of money voted by Parliament for the specific purpose of clothing the British infantry, attaches a stigma to those whose political pusillanimity, when in office, negatives their probable wish to be just.

The clothing-warrant states, that when the articles are not issued, compensation in lieu thereof is to be paid. The sergeants receive £3; and other ranks, £1 13s. It is proverbially known throughout the army that, when given in kind, the cost does not exceed these sums respectively. The said clothing consists of boots, trousers, coat, and shako. The two first are served out from the regimental store for less than compensation price; and the others, although not issued as store articles, can be obtained, if required, at the regulated sums: consequently, whether issued in kind, or paid for in compensation to the soldier, the cost is no greater to the colonel.

That the perquisites of army clothiers cannot be trivial may be surmised, when the names of between forty and fifty of that trade may be counted in the "London Directory." Should the colonel of a regiment offer the clothing of his battalion at the remunerative price of £1 for each private, exclusive of the other ranks, there is little doubt but the proposal would readily be entertained; if, indeed, such an arrangement does not, in many instances, now exist. The whole system pursued, as respects the clothing of the British infantry of the line, is bad. The colonel engages a contractor, who employs a number of persons, principally women, to execute the work. All these must, of course, share in the profits, but the females less than any, while the non-commissioned officers and privates are the sufferers.

The Board of Ordnance clothe their branch of the service under better management. It is done on the principle of close contract. The colonels of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers in no degree interfere with the details; that duty devolves exclusively on the Board. The clothing is supplied direct by the Ordnance, without passing through any intermediate channel. The texture of the cloth, together with the sewing, is incomparably superior to that worn by the infantry of the line. A colonel of the Royal Engineers has a fixed pay of £1000; the officer of corresponding rank in the Royal Artillery, £1003, and the colonel commandant of the Brigade of Horse Artillery £1095. These statements are authenticated by the Blue Book on Ordnance Expenditure.

Why is not a general officer holding an appointment as colonel of a battalion of the line similarly placed?

As an instance of the superiority of Ordnance clothing—always excepting the great coats served out to the line—men joining the Royal Newfoundland Companies furnish an admirable case in point. This corps is recruited by volunteers serving in different battalions in the continental provinces of North America. On first joining, they, of course, appear in the dress of the regiments they have recently quitted. An opportunity thus offers for examining the quality of the material in which each man is clad. The inferiority of that worn by soldiers from the line is too palpably obvious to admit comparison with the regimentals of the Royal Artillery, and others not clothed by the colonels. The uniforms for colonial corps, not having colonel-commandants, are supplied by the Ordnance. The Admiralty furnish that of the Royal Marines; and it is more ample, and better in every respect than is the case with the line. The cloth of the infantry coat is not inaptly designated by the soldiers as *bull's wool*.

Much more could be advanced corroborative of the inefficiency of the costume now forced upon the infantry; but the limits of a newspaper prohibit a prolonged disquisition on the subject. It may, however, be hoped that sufficient has been pointed out, to banish all doubt as to the desirability of a speedy reform.

**MURDER OF A BRITISH OFFICER.**—The *Volcano* steam-vessel, commander Robert Coote, has brought home intelligence of the murder of Mr. Carr, a fine young officer, who was turned over from the *Prometheus* steam-sloop to the *Myrmidon* steam-vessel, still serving on the west coast of Africa. The murder was perpetrated on the 28th of November, at an island called Kanzabac, one of the Bijonga group. Mr. Carr had landed on some rocks, intending to spear fish. He had not been ten minutes when he was fired at from the bush, upon which he either tumbled or jumped into the sea. The savages instantly made their appearance, and one of them ran down and stood on the rocks, where he watched till Carr rose, the impression on board the steamer being that he had dived, and the African then shot him through the head. The whole transaction occupied so short a time, that as a gun was fired from the ship the murderer retreated into the bush again. A boat was instantly sent to the rocks, but the tide had flowed so rapidly that no traces of Mr. Carr's body could be seen. On the following day the body was found, when it was ascertained that the first shot had hit him in the abdomen, and would of itself have caused death. The second shot went through the head. The officers and crew of the *Myrmidon* were burning for revenge for the foul and uncalculated murder, but they could do nothing, as there are no towns near the sea, and to advance into a country thickly inhabited with armed men, was not warranted with the small disposable force serving in the *Myrmidon*.

The Polish General Wisowski has arrived at Constantinople. He commanded a Polish legion during the war in Hungary.

## THE COMMAND OF THE ARMY.

(From a Military Correspondent.)

Lord Raglan is quoted as the probable successor to Viscount Hardinge. The distinguished services of the present Master-General of the Ordnance are well known; and his ready attention to all matters brought before him when Military Secretary are proverbial. Left to his own discretion, just and uncompromising decisions were invariably awarded. But, unfortunately, such power was withdrawn during the recent period of the Duke of Wellington's life. The late Commander-in-Chief scouted the possibility of a soldier becoming old; and, acting on that infatuation, nominated men to responsible posts in consequence of having known them when in the zenith of his unparalleled career.

The results of such hallucination are yet palpable. Bitter injury has been inflicted by obstinate pertinacity in checking inquiry into grievous wrongs. Adherence to prejudices which no argument could shake, cannot be laid to the discredit of others compelled to bow to unjustifiable dictation; yet many have real cause to lament such flagrant malversation of power.

From boyhood Lord Raglan has well served his country, both in the office and the field. Like the present chief of the British army, he has bled and suffered mutilation in an honourable cause; and all would rejoice at the announcement of benefit being awarded to so gallant a soldier. Energetic and inured to the fatigue of business, time, nevertheless, will assert his unconquerable right. Lapse of years, in the estimation of England's greatest captain, dwindled into nothingness as the vivid remembrance of heroism and daring cast their flickering gleams across the warrior's mind; but what human will can check abridgment either of mental or corporeal power after a prolonged sojourn upon earth? Honour to him whose grey hairs are surrounded with wreaths of unfading laurel; but wherefore oppress a green old age with cares and disquietude of office, when younger and competent commanders are available?

The Master-General of the Ordnance has himself promulgated a decision that no man is competent for the appointment of barrack-master when past the age of forty-five. Military men fully understand the routine of duty appertaining to that branch of the service! If the average rate of intellectual and physical power is justly computed, it may be asked, by what extraordinary deviation from the laws of nature an officer sixty-six years old can perform the laborious functions of Master-General? In the former position superintendence is restricted to certain buildings within a limited district; the latter involves responsibility and command over upwards of 160 barrack-masters, above 80 storekeepers in charge; efficiency of the Royal Artillery in every branch and department; together with innumerable adjuncts—for all of which the Master-General is accountable. A thorough knowledge of each particular demands unceasing vigilance and attention. This to the uninitiated may appear inconsistent, but soldiers are soon made acquainted with such incongruities.

During the administration of his Royal Highness the late Duke of York, the British Army derived immense benefit by the untiring zeal and active benevolence prominent in every action of that illustrious Prince. As a member of the Royal family, the Duke possessed an influence which no subject of inferior rank could attain. Such command should ever be held by some individual allied by blood to the Sovereign of the realm. Happily, no impediment to so desirable an arrangement now exists, and the post thus filled becomes unfettered by importunities of relatives, from whose unceasing persecutions other commanders too frequently escape by ill-judged concession.

The Duke of Cambridge has made the profession of arms his study. His Royal Highness is devoted to the service, and has assiduously laboured to master all the details. The Duke's military knowledge is not confined to the showy evolutions of a field-day or review. At the commencement of his career he submitted to precisely the same routine of drill marked out for the private soldier. Instead of at once leaping to command, he practically learnt the first rudiments; and, in due course, passed through the various gradations, until competent to work a battalion, and from that a brigade and division. During the period alluded to, fortification and gunnery occupied much of his time. A similar course was afterwards pursued in the cavalry, and there are few, if any, general officers so conversant with the minutiae of each branch of the service, as is the Duke of Cambridge. Nothing relating to the soldier's efficiency and comfort escapes his notice. His Royal Highness's inspection of corps is not a mere ceremony resulting in nothing. His intimate knowledge of even the most trivial matters has oftentimes elicited the admiration of both officers and men. Zealous in the discharge of his military duties, unsurpassed in attention to business, courteous to all, highly popular with the army, and gifted with that rare blessing, sound common sense, the appointment of the Duke of Cambridge as General Commanding-in-Chief, would gladly be received by the nation.

The advantage of age over youth has been advanced in opposition to this desirable end. But, those who argue on such untenable ground, should bear in mind that the Duke of Wellington was one year younger than the Duke of Cambridge now is, when the battle of Assaye was won. Napoleon was not thirty-two at Marengo. The most distinguished chiefs who served in the Peninsula reaped their laurels when under forty.

Of the thirty-eight Generals whose achievements yet grace the "Army List," the junior entered the service in 1798; and among the Lieutenant-Generals, none save an isolated instance—commenced a military career more recently than 1806.

Should her Majesty be pleased to confer the highest appointment in the British army, when next vacant, upon the Duke of Cambridge, the service may hope for speedy emancipation from the thralldom of "ancient custom," having nothing to recommend its perpetuity beyond a leaning towards what was once deemed good, before modern improvement pointed out the fallacy of error. Interminable hesitation would then give place to vigorous decision. Long cherished abuses would be rooted out, and in brief space the advantage of a thorough alteration in system would become manifest when compared with the vacillation of the present day.

**ENLARGEMENT OF THE WELLINGTON BARRACKS.**—A number of men are engaged in taking down several houses in the rear of the Wellington Barracks, St. James's park, for the purpose of extending its site, and of erecting additional commodious barracks. The necessity for a new barrack has arisen in consequence of the Government being compelled to give up the Portman Barracks, the property of Lord Portman, as his Lordship does not intend to renew the lease, which has recently expired; so that the Guards which used to occupy it will be stationed at the Wellington Barracks.

**THE MAINE LIQUOR LAW.**—The Hon. Neal Dow, the originator of the Maine law, with reference to elections in America, in a recent letter says:—"We have recently had very important elections in this country—the point the Maine law, which resulted gloriously. In Baltimore, fourth city of the union, entire temperance ticket elected; in Philadelphia, second city, seven Maine-law men out of eleven, whole number; New York, first city, six Maine-law men; and through the state two to one. In Boston, third city, the rum party, hitherto invincible, has been beaten terribly—suffering a net loss of 6600 votes! Everywhere our cause seems to be in the ascendant."

**DO RATS LEAVE DANGEROUS PLACES?**—A statement made by the mate of the schooner *Deedrop*, of Whitby, which was wrecked at Arbroath on Wednesday week, would seem to answer the above question in the affirmative. He says that the vessel had for a long time been infested with thousands of rats; but on the night before they left Hartlepool on the fatal voyage all the vermin disappeared, not a rat being seen where a day before they might have been counted by the dozen.—*Glasgow Mail*.

## THE CORPORATION OF LONDON.—ITS DEFENCE.

The defence of the Corporation of London, as elaborated by its ingenious officers, and read by its able Recorder, is one of those documents which clever people occasionally produce, not for the purpose of elucidation, but with the desire to mystify the reader. Length is mistaken for learning, and obscurity for profound reasoning. Before referring to this extraordinary production, we thought it advisable to learn what the special points were which required the support of evidence to bring them more distinctly before the mental eye of the public. We have waded through the prolix statements and antiquarian evidence of Mr. Serjeant Mereweather, the Town-clerk, without obtaining much information on the real question at issue. After his declaration that the Municipal Reform Bill was, in his judgment, one of the most unconstitutional measures ever sanctioned by Parliament, we could not expect any very satisfactory opinion to come from him. He wound up his day's examination by giving utterance to the extraordinary notion that, even in its numbers, the Corporation was almost perfect—from which we gather that the machine is so exquisitely balanced and arranged in all its parts that any addition to, or reduction in, its numbers would endanger the entire system. Mr. Pearson, the City Solicitor, who in former days was the foremost reformer of abuses, was expected to deliver some telling truths; but, for the first time in our remembrance, we were neither amused nor instructed by the learned gentleman.

The Common Serjeant, the Judge of the Sheriffs' Court, the Architect, the Bridge-house Comptroller, the Clerk and Engineer to the Commissioners of Sewers, and other notabilities of the almost endless troop of officers, have severally spoken to facts relating to their own particular departments. If we pass over the fact that each endeavoured to establish the doctrine that his own peculiar services were exceedingly important, and for the talent employed not over paid, there is scarcely anything demanding public attention. A few corrections of unimportant mistakes, into which their zealous acusers had fallen, was the only show of anything like a tangible resistance.

The evidence adduced adds nothing to the written "defence," as it is called, but which, in reality, is no defence. Most of the grave charges are either admitted or passed over in silence, while professed quotations are garbled or incorrectly given. Anything more flimsy in character or powerless in argument, we have seldom perused. Were we disposed to express our opinion in a single sentence we would pronounce the judgment, that, while a few details are satisfactorily explained, the leading features of the accusation remain untouched, or are virtually admitted.

When we read "that some of the persons who appear to be conducting the case against the Corporation have constituted themselves at once accusers, witnesses, and projectors; and have, in their evidence on oath, intermingled offensive misrepresentations and exaggerations of assumed facts, with specious arguments, groundless opinions, and speculative projects;" we expected a crushing reply—a satisfactory and triumphant answer. The defence is arranged under six different heads; and the first is—that the Corporation is charged with having an income of excessive amount.

This is not the charge. The charge is, that the income is improperly and extravagantly expended; and to this charge no sufficient answer is given. That much of its income is derived from objectionable sources, is admitted. The metage of corn and dues on oysters, street tolls, and freedom fees, are acknowledged by their own witnesses to be customs not in accordance with the spirit of the age and the unrestricted freedom of trade. The defence of the Corporation, and its declaration of its motives in compelling persons to take up their freedom, is the old one of killing with kindness. It was not oppressive, though some poor people were ruined to meet the legal expenses; it was not persecution; it was for their good, and to enlarge the constituency of the City, by increasing the number of freemen. It was the fraternal affection described as characterising the conduct of the spider to the fly. They did not engage genuine professional spies to entrap and convict the persons to be proceeded against; but it now appears that the Solicitor to the Corporation did the work himself, combining in his own person several important functions. It is described as having been a friendly action. It so terminated—but it did not so begin. The friendly arrangement was made so soon as the Corporation discovered that those attacked were determined to fight and resist the iniquitous demand.

The character of the general defence may be gathered from the following:—A witness, who evidently knew what he was talking about, endeavoured to show that the Corporation had never been equal to the duties of the times in which it flourished, and cited several cases, occurring at different periods, to establish the fact. He referred to the City having parted with its control over the New River water supply—the consequence of which was, that the citizens were charged much more than would have been the case had the Corporation been faithful to its trust. The answer is precisely what had been testified—"The Corporation relinquished all concern with the New River Company two centuries ago."

The same witness charged the Corporation with improperly disposing of Gresham House, by collusion with the Government, and thus defrauding the youth of the City of certain advantages intended by the will of Sir Thomas Gresham, which established a college for their especial benefit. The reply is—"This occurred in 1769."

It was further adduced in condemnation, that the Corporation declined to construct docks for the accommodation of merchants, when urged by the shipowners, who were supported by a Government which offered the Corporation certain exclusive privileges if they would undertake the work. And the answer is the admission that "this happened in 1799."

Had they followed the witness in his evidence they would have found that he introduced their opposition to the removal of Smithfield-market as their last determined stand against a great public improvement. But that did not answer their purpose. The fact was too recent. The public indignation had been too much excited for them to venture on such debatable ground. Every branch of the testimony has its answer save that of Smithfield, and every answer is an admission of the accuracy of the evidence given.

One is naturally surprised at the exceeding deficiency of tact displayed in their laboured manifesto. The officers of the Corporation are held to be clear-headed and shrewd practitioners, yet they wind up their statement, which occupied two hours in reading, with a grandiloquent eulogium on their present healthy and virtuous condition. The whole of which, when stripped of its verbiage, amounted to only this. If we are held to be impure or corrupt in the nineteenth century, we are perfection when compared with the condition of our forefathers in the eighteenth century. The corruption of the eighteenth century is evidently looked upon as an ample apology or reason for the corruption that has run through the first half of the nineteenth century, and exists at the present hour.

What are the principal charges made against this self-dubbed immaculate body?

Its opposition to general improvement.  
Its extravagant expenditure.  
Its oppressive interference with traders.  
Its exercise of injurious powers of metage.  
Its arrogance, as a twentieth part of the metropolis, in presuming to be considered as the whole.

Such are the broad principles avowed and embraced in the investigation before the Royal Commission. Some of the keen and cutting points have been rounded off by explanations given. But the giant



evil remains. The great facts brought to view, in all their rugged proportions, stand up, in the sunlight of unimpeachable testimony, undisputed, and, we presume, indisputable. After the evidence given by Mr. Scott, the best course the Corporation could have taken would have been to throw up their defence and appeal to the tender mercies of the Commissioners; to acknowledge the *black mail* of the coal-tax, abolish their tolls, pull down Temple-bar, promise new streets and more bridges, and to cover themselves, like repentant sinners, in sackcloth and ashes. No antagonistic evidence has done them half the mischief which their friendly evidence has done: some admit certain slight defects; others can see no defect; while some throw light on matters "confidential," secret, dark, and midnight doings; and have so convinced the public mind of the mischievous tendency of corporate doings, that nothing but a thorough purification will satisfy the imperative demand for reform.

It is amusing to see how the defenders pounce upon a piece of well-doing which all acknowledge, and how much they make of it. What a flourish of trumpets there is in connection with the City School. That establishment has been highly commended, but they must also laud it. There is an old proverb about "self praise" which applies here with more than ordinary force. It would have been more discreet in the Corporation to have confined itself to the accusations. When did it discover that the bequest of John Carpenter was not properly applied? Had Lord Brougham's inquiry into charities no moving influence? How long was the letter kept and the spirit broken? See, also, how the Corporation defenders take credit for the liberality and generous sympathy of others. The philanthropy of Mr. Beaufoy, the spirit of the *Times*, the generosity of Alderman Salomons—who have established scholarships in the City of London School—are introduced in the defence as reflecting credit on the Corporation. Such a school does reflect credit, and exercises a beneficial influence on the minds and morals of the youth of the City; but, as the possession of some virtues cannot be held as any excuse for the commission of many sins, neither can this single bright speck in the Corporation cover nor excuse the plague-spots that exist.

#### THE SUPPRESSED PAMPHLET.

In connection with the charges brought against Prince Albert, for alleged interference with the business of the Foreign Office, frequent allusions have been made to a certain pamphlet, which was said to contain the most undeniable evidence of his Royal Highness's guilt. Mr. William Coningham, of Brighton, in a letter to a morning paper, which has taken the lead in filling the public mind with all kinds of rumours on the subject, described the pamphlet as containing "documentary evidence of the Prince's unconstitutional interference in the foreign affairs of Great Britain; and the statements contained in the celebrated letter signed M.P., are based upon it, or upon other equally incontrovertible data." The pamphlet was further said to have been written at the request of Lord Palmerston, who had furnished the materials on which it was founded. As this appeared to involve Lord Palmerston in the matter, a semi-official statement on the subject appeared in the *Morning Post* of Monday, giving the following explanation of his Lordship's connection with the affair:—

We believe the simple truth to have been that, shortly after Lord Palmerston's removal from office, in December, 1851, there were shown to him, while at his seat in Hampshire, the proof-sheets of a pamphlet written with friendly intentions towards him, and containing the writer's views on the subject of his Lordship's recent removal from office; and he was told that the pamphlet was to be published in London the next morning. We believe that, he immediately, and without communication with any other person, expressed a wish that the pamphlet should not be published, as he was desirous that the matters to which it related should stand over for discussion and explanation when Parliament met; and the pamphlet, accordingly, was not published. So far, Mr. Coningham has been rightly informed; but he has been entirely misinformed as to the supposed communication of documents by Lord Palmerston to a baronet, and by the baronet to the writer of the pamphlet. No such documents were communicated; for the most conclusive of reasons, namely, that none such existed.

The whole of the pamphlet entitled "Lord Palmerston, What Has He Done?" has been published in the *Times*, prefaced by the following letter from the author. So far from containing documentary evidence in proof of the charges, it consists entirely—or, at least, mainly—of an elaborate attack upon Lord John Russell, for having turned out Lord Palmerston to make room for Lord Granville, for the mere purpose of pleasing foreign Governments:—

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES."

Sir,—When Lord Palmerston suppressed the publication in 1852 of the accompanying pamphlet, it was because he desired that the vindication of his conduct should be heard in the House of Commons from his own lips, and not out of doors from the pen of any of his friends. The reason for suppression no longer exists, and I must therefore beg you to be good enough, in justice to Lord Palmerston, and to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, whose name has been most unwarrantably introduced in connection with the pamphlet, to give at once insertion to the entire document in your columns.

I am most desirous to say that the pamphlet was not written at the instigation of Lord Palmerston, and that his Lordship did not know of its existence until, on its completion, I thought it my duty to ask his permission for publication, when his Lordship at once begged that it might be suppressed. I am, sir, your obedient servant,

THE AUTHOR OF "PALMERSTON, WHAT HAS HE DONE?"

London, Jan. 23.

#### HER MAJESTY'S SKATES.

DURING the recent severe weather, Messrs. Marsden Brothers, and Silverwood, of Sheffield, were honoured with the Royal command to manufacture for her Majesty a pair of Skates; and the elegantly-finished article we have engraved is the result.



The iron in the front is in the form of a swan, chased in imitation of feathers; the clog is of s-tin-wood, with toe leathers formed in the shape of a shoe, so that, when fitted to the foot and laced, it is very firm. At the opposite extremity is a plate cup to fit the foot, and chased with the rose, sham-ock, and thistle. The strap round the heel is of black patent leather, stitched to correspond with the heel-cup. The clog and front leather are lined with "chamoury" skin, to secure warmth to the foot. The manufacturers of these elegant Skates have also made four other pairs for the Royal children.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR TEACHING THE BLIND TO READ.—On Tuesday a special general meeting of the friends of this charity was held at the asylum, Avenue road. St. John's wood, for the purpose of transacting the usual business of the school. The report stated that the friends of the society would rejoice to hear that their essential object—viz., the completion of the Bible on Lucas's system—had now been accomplished, and also that Mr. Wood, the master, had adapted the characters to musical notation. A wonderful proof of the facility with which Lucas's system can be read is afforded in the history of a clergyman, who having been, twelve years since, deprived of sight, attempted in vain to read by the common alphabetic characters; but, having acquired a knowledge of the stenographic system, now reads with such fluency as to perform his ministerial duties without any assistance—conducting two whole services every Sunday with the same ease and comfort as if he were not deprived of sight. The completion of the embossed Bible is to him a peculiar boon, not only by facilitating his private study, but also by enabling him to read in public the appropriate Church lessons throughout the year. The report concluded with an appeal to the public for support.

#### REFORM MEETING AT MANCHESTER.

The annual meeting of Lancashire Liberals, comprising the members for the two divisions of the county, and most of those for the boroughs, with their influential supporters and friends, was held at the Albion Hotel, Manchester, on Tue-day evening. The ordinary rule has been to hold the annual meeting on a large scale, in the Free-trade Hall; but that building having been taken down, the notion of a public demonstration was given up, and the meeting confined to 200 persons, instead of twenty times that number. Among those present were—Mr. Cobb n, M.P.; the Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, M.P.; Mr. John Bright, M.P.; Mr. John Cheetham, M.P.; Mr. William Brown, M.P.; Mr. James Heywood, M.P.; Mr. T. Barnes, M.P.; Mr. Joseph Crook, M.P.; Mr. Pilkington, M.P.; Mr. Montague Fielden, M.P.; Mr. Miall, M.P.; Mr. James Kershaw, M.P.; Mr. George Hadfield, M.P.; Mr. F. Crossley, M.P.; Mr. Lawrence Heyworth, M.P.; and most of the active members of the late Anti-Corn-law League. The chief speakers were Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Bright; but the speech of the evening was that of Mr. Cobden. The first portion of it was devoted to an exposition of his views on the suffrage question. An attempt had been made to show that the working classes were not fit for the suffrage, because "a few thousands of lads and lasses have gone wrong on a question of political economy;" but, as he went on to show the blunder they had committed was not much greater than those which have been often made by the wealthier classes. He was in favour of an extension of the suffrage, but would not say to what extent. All he would say on that point was, that if the Government does not enlarge our electoral pale, their scheme will be received with dissatisfaction by the great body of the people. He was in favour of triennial Parliaments, and strongly in favour of the ballot. Having disposed of reform, he proceeded to the Eastern question. He referred to his first appearance as a pamphleteer in 1835, when Government increased our navy 5000 men, in consequence of a cry for war with Russia. He held the same opinions then as he does now, and yet he was not stigmatised then as an enemy to the interests of England. So far from that having been the case, "whatever notoriety he had acquired—he would not call it fame—was entirely founded on the production of those pamphlets." The sum and substance of what they contained, he went on to say, was simply this—

Those pamphlets, from beginning to end, are in this sense: don't go to war to maintain the independence and integrity of Turkey; America is the only rival you have to fear in England; barbarism won't overturn civilisation in these days. With the improvement in mechanics, and the discovery of gunpowder, there will never be another irruption of the Goths. My arguments went to try to show that Turkey was a decaying country for 150 years; and, by all the authorities that could be quoted, was pronounced a declining and a decaying country. Well, that crisis of the Eastern question blew over. Now we have precisely the same thing over again—here are the same instruments at work, the same arguments used. Now we are called on again, as we were in 1835, to maintain the integrity and independence of the Turkish empire; but we are called upon to do more—we are called upon especially to make war with Russia. But these are two distinct questions. Your hostility to Russia, and your determination to keep Russia within her present boundaries, is a distinct question from that whether you will maintain Turkey and the Mahometans as a permanent rule in Europe.

He could not see any just cause for going to war with Russia. There was no antagonism in England to Russia—indeed, there was no place in Europe where Englishmen exercised more social sway than they did there. Were he asked his opinion as to the aggression upon Turkey, he would admit that it was unjust and insolent; but if he were asked to go further, and interfere on behalf of Turkey, he must then turn round and ask why England is to be the policeman of the world. If we meddle with Russia for its aggression upon Turkey, why do we not meddle with other nations when they commit outrages upon their neighbours? We ought to follow some distinct principle; and, above all, looking to India, we ought to be sure that we have not done wrong ourselves.

But you are afraid that, if Russia goes to Turkey and gets possession of Constantinople, he will become a great maritime power, will absorb all the influence of the Mediterranean, and become dangerous to the influence of England. Very well; how will Russia, when she gets possession of Constantinople, get all this power? Constantinople itself will not give that power, or what have the Turks been doing for four hundred years there? How is it that, in possession of that which you say is so fine a site, the chosen seat of empire, that country has sunk to a miserable decrepitude, not capable of protecting its own frontiers—not even able to defend itself against its own satraps. It is not by getting possession of Constantinople that Russia will become the centre of political power and influence, and a great maritime power; but it is by improving her commerce that she will increase her power, and by that process maintain her industry. Ships will not sail ready built, loaded, and manned, down the Volga and the Danube, because Russia possesses those territories. She must make a merchant navy, as all other countries have done—as the Venetians did, as the Dutch have done, as the English have done—by the prices of labour and industry; by the accumulation of wealth through commercial enterprise, and by the skill and intelligence of her artisans. Well, but before she has done all that, she has ceased to be this barbarous power that you are afraid of; and I defy her to do this, to accumulate wealth, to accumulate power, because she has got possession of Constantinople; but it must be through commercial relations with every other country of the world. How has America become a great maritime country? By being our greatest customer and rival, and because you find her ships in your ports more than any other—half as much almost as all the others. The same process must go on; and when Russia has arrived at this state of civilisation, she will have given bonds for a peaceable career, as America has. She will have something at home that will be a hostage to the civilised world of her peaceable intentions. Therefore, I put aside altogether the idea that a country is to become rich, and great, and powerful, and still remain a barbarous and warlike nation.

A great deal of nonsense had been written and spoken about this Eastern question. We were not bound by any treaty to fight for Turkey. Lord Aberdeen had said very emphatically in the House of Lords that we have no treaty to bind us to maintain the integrity of Turkey. The quarrel between Russia and that country was an old one, it had been going on for 150 years, and now we were asked to fight in future for the defence of Mahomedanism in Europe. In Turkey, in Serbia, and the Principalities, he contended that the sympathies of the people are in favour of Russia.

As to the alliance between France and England, he was much afraid of it. No one would suppose that he wished to see an alienation between France and England, but he did not think such alliances were quite safe.

He concluded with a high eulogium on the conduct of the Earl of Aberdeen throughout the whole of the negotiations, the crowning motive of his life has been "to prevent this country from falling into a European war."

Lord Aberdeen remembers the fact, that at the outbreak of the last great French war in 1793, we had every Government in Europe with us, or sympathising with us; and that ten years afterwards they were almost all against us. And he knows that the very subsidies which we granted to our allies on the Continent, were converted into ammunition and accoutrements, and used in opposition to ourselves. Lord Aberdeen knows that when war has existed for six or twelve months, the silly people who now cry out for war, will be the first to turn round and denounce him for having brought suffering and distress amongst them. He knows that if he fires a hostile shot against Russia, it ceases to be a war between two semi-barbarians in an almost inaccessible sea. The conflict assumes European dimensions, and you will have confusion, insurrection, and probably war, throughout a great part of Europe. No doubt those are the reflections which sway the mind of Lord Aberdeen, and I am sure there is no more honourable position that a man can be placed in than to be denounced and railed at, and caricatured, for having endeavoured to preserve this great country, and all its mighty influences, from the consequences of a war.

Mr. Bright spoke also at great length against the anti-Russian feeling which prevails. According to him, the danger to this country, from the actual conquest of Constantinople, by Russia, is "of the most dim, vague, remote, and doubtful character." Had we not meddled in the matter, beyond counselling, advising, and remonstrating, he believed that Russia would have adopted a moderate course, "because great nations and absolute Governments do not like to be forced to do anything."

Before the meeting broke up, it was resolved that the Liberal members connected with Lancashire, should consider themselves a committee to secure a proper extension of the suffrage.

FALSE DATES IN WATERMARKS OF PAPERS.—Lately, in cutting up some paper for photographic purposes, I found in one and the same quire two sheets without any mark, two of the date 1851, nine bearing the date 1853, and the remaining eleven were 1854. I can imagine a case might occur in which the authenticity of a document might be much questioned were it dated 1853, when the paper would be presumed not to have been made until a year afterwards. I think this is worth making a note of, not only by lawyers, but those interested in historical documents.—From Notes and Queries.

#### TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE principal sale of the London season, as far as English pictures are concerned, will be that of the late Lord Charles Townshend. The sale, it is said, will not include the once famous Rainham Collection, containing the celebrated "Belisarius of Salvator Rosa," and the highly-interesting series of full-length portraits of English soldiers, who served in the Low Country wars under Sir Francis and Sir Horace Vere. We are glad to hear this, for the Rainham series is the earliest existing collection of English portraits made on the principle of the Waterloo Gallery at Windsor. The Rainham portraits are highly interesting, and though hung, as they are at present, in ill-lighted rooms, they carry the spectator back to times when the pike was trailed by English soldiers in the true spirit of chivalry. At Lord Charles's sale, the leading attractions will be the charming portrait of "Mrs. Braddyl," by Sir Joshua, so exquisitely engraved by Samuel Cousins; and the "Letter Writer," by Wilkie (the last great work of its painter, bought by Lord Charles, at the Wilkie sale (though unfinished), for £446 5s.

Critics of name differ (when do they not differ?) about the merits and proposed site of Marochetti's statue of Richard Cœur de Lion, recently—as the readers of our News will remember—temporarily erected in front of (in our time) the old entrance to Westminster hall. Some exclaim that the pedestal is too low; some, that the site is bad; some, that the hero hardly deserves a statue; some, that the statue itself is not artistic; while others assert (with equal loudness) that the site is excellent, the man essentially a hero, and the statue highly artistic. Cabmen who wait for fares in front of the statue are equally at variance about its merits. The four-wheelers, we observed, are against it, as too energetic; while the Hansoms are unanimous in its favour. Most of our readers will recollect the statue: it stood at the west end of the Great Exhibition Palace, in Hyde-park, as if courting admittance, and when there, seen against the clear blue sky, looked very well indeed. We confess, however, that now it is not seen to advantage. Its present must not be its permanent site. One old lady's remark struck us as particularly good. She had been at George the Fourth's coronation, and thought (not unnaturally) that the statue was put up in honour of Dymock, the King's champion. We must confess that the position of the statue leads naturally to such a notion. Richard seems challenging all deniers of some imaginary right. There is more of Scrvellsby than the Crusade about this, in other respects, clever statue.

Who would wish to be an architect? What father would apprentice his son to such a craft? Truly it is a money-making concern, but we are speaking of a father anxious for the after-reputation of his child. Paint a clever picture, and it must depend for European reputation on the engraver; build a fine house (even such as Mr. Ruskin will admire), and the love of change or Change-alley may, and will, before many years are over, doom it to destruction. Architects seem to be the most unfeeling set of Christians, one to another, that we can readily call to mind. How greedily they prey upon one another. Has not Sir Charles Barry, at the Treasury, re-faced and eclipsed Sir John Soane? Has not Sydney Smirke, at the British Museum, thrown even his brother into the shade, to exalt himself (not badly, we own)? and what do we now see? Here is the old Carlton Club, scarce a quarter of a century old, gutted at the present moment—a mere carcass—waiting for the magic wand of Sydney Smirke, assisted by his labourers to become a mere nothing. The Carlton front was long one of the well-known stuccoed faces of Pall-mall. It is no longer to be so. We are now to have Sansovina, and not Sir Robert Smirke—a new and elevated Carlton, instead of the old, dowdy, though not unhandsome, building.

What strange alterations have we not seen in sites!

Where's Troy? and where's the Maypole in the Strand? How unlike Pall-mall proper (of 1806, before Winsor lighted it with gas) is Pall-mall of 1854, with gas and clubs, and scarce a vestige of its former appearance. The only attractive feature in Piccadilly is about to be removed. Who has not seen the advertisement announcing the sale of Burlington House? Yes—one of the finest buildings in London, standing on one of the finest sites in London, is doomed to destruction. The temptation is too great—money is about to demolish the best example of the genius and munificence of the Earl to whom Pope addressed his noble epistle on "Taste." Pope had seen Canons rise and fall (a palace in a wilderness—a labourer quarry above ground), but how little did he foresee that the fine mansion in Piccadilly, which the then Vitruvius had erected, would, long before its stones were showing decay, or its bricks had become unset, be doomed to the hammer of the auctioneer. As much, we hear, as £180,000 have been refused for Burlington House, and as much as £250,000 are asked. Several amphitheatre managers are looking longingly at the site, and with their hands in their pockets; but the sum asked is too large. If London is thus marching westward, we shall have the Haymarket some day in clover; and "laughing Ceres" will reassume the ground on which Burlington House now stands, so enviously, and at so high a price.

The trustees of the British Museum have, we are told, just secured to the nation a very desirable acquisition to its many manuscript treasures. We allude to the papers and correspondence of Sir Hudson Lowe during his service at St. Helena as Governor of that island, and the English officer in charge of Napoleon. The sons of Sir Hudson have been naturally most desirous to have their father's papers deposited in some safe and accessible quarter. Where, then, they are said to have asked themselves, could they be placed to greater advantage than in the British Museum? Large sums, we believe, have been offered for this series of papers by known and rich collectors; but to bury their father's papers has not been the object of the sons of Sir Hudson Lowe; and the "Lowe Papers" have, consequently, been secured to the nation on, as we understand, very reasonable terms. Sir Frederick Madden is not so un-alive to the advantage of securing contemporary papers as some clamourists would lead us to believe. The great secret of cheap buying is to buy in advance. Had some Sir Frederick Madden, of 1660, secured the papers of Cromwell or of Shakespeare, what treasures would he not have obtained for all ages! How many false readings would he not have overturned? how many false readings would he not have stifled (to our advantage) in their first existence?

The Athenæum is still a literary club; and the Parthenon and the Erechtheum are said to be junior branches of the parent stock. The old tree still flourishes, but the limbs are not alive. The parent club has not vitality enough for two branches; so the two branches have concentrated their strength into, what we are told will be, a noble limb. On the 1st of February the Erechtheum ceases to exist, and what remains of her crew are carried over—not in distress, however—to the apartments of the Parthenon. The two clubs are to be rolled into one; but not without some stipulation on the part of the Erechtheum members—they carry their cook with them. We do not regret the stipulation—it was in every respect a wise one.

Mr. Dickens is to commence his new story, or, at least, a new story in his highly-popular periodical, "Household Words." We are not sorry to hear this, though we should feel a great regret, in common with thousands, should Mr. Dickens allow the year to pass by without giving us some numbers of a new work between those two green leaves, for which we have been taught to look with a continued eagerness.

Men interested in literature are observing with pleasure that the *Quarterly Review* has recently resumed a more literary character; that it is more itself again. The present number supports its old literary feature. The article on Gray and his works is evidently written by one who is well-up in his subject, and, what is more, can write. How often is knowledge rendered comparatively useless from want of skill in setting it forth, and making it attractive?



## SKETCHES FROM KALAFAT AND WIDDIN.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.  
THE BATTLES OF KALAFAT AND CITATE.

(From our Special Correspondent)

WIDDIN, January 6, 1854.

The turbid waters of the Danube were driving vast flocks of ice on the 1st of January, 1854, as I obtained permission to leave the fortress of



HIS EXCELLENCY SAMI PASHA, GOVERNOR OF WIDDIN.

Widdin, and seek in a light bark the frozen and snow-clad hills of Kalafat. The roaring of the ice-fields, as they crunched together, and strove against each other in the tide; the noise they made, as they fringed their sides with heap on heap of icy fragments, rung sharp upon the ear; whilst the bubbling of the rushing water, compressed and hindered in its course, kept up a species of accompaniment to the fantastic rending of the glittering masses. The current of the Danube is so strong that the water cannot freeze; but the stream drives fields of ice from either shore. In their descent, these masses meet and rend each other; and, on the banks, they rear large blocks and strange festoons of icicles, which, as each field goes by, are added to and strengthened, till the stream is narrowed to its smallest limits. Then the ice-fields cease to flow upon the surface. They dive and rise again, and whirl in curious eddies till the stream is full, and then a pause takes place. The frozen pieces come together, and refuse to part; gradually the waters cease to bubble over, and the Danube then is frozen over.

In the midst of the eddying masses which I have described, the little bark that held me, manned and steered by olive-coloured Turks, was manfully launched; and, bumping here through one obstacle, steering round a second, I was landed upon the island fronting the old city of Widdin. There all was movement, bustle, and labour. Boats filled with stores of every sort were coming to the land; and, as they turned and turned their way amidst the fields of ice, they looked like things ingeni-

ously put to other purposes than those for which they were designed. No water was visible, but the rough sides of the bark broke out in strong relief upon the cold and changing masses of the ice, as it wandered through them. The redif, with his grey great coat and hood, his legs encased in every sort of covering as protection from the cold, was shivering on the bank. The swarthy soldiers of the desert mixed here and there amongst the crowd, looking blacker from the frost; the variegated dresses of irregulars; and, passive in the midst, the long-haired Wallachs, with their coats of sheep-skin, and their strange and cone-like hats, imparted to the scene a wild and curious character. How strange, in truth, the chance that brings the dweller in the desert, who in his life before has seen no snow, in contact with the Wallach and Bulgarian, whose life is passed in striving half the year to keep out the cold, the other half to avoid the heat. This Danubian climate is inexorable. It is sometimes fifteen degrees of Reaumur below zero, at others the heat mounts up to 100 Fahrenheit. Such are the

alternations of winter and summer. Leaving the landing-place, encumbered by bullock-carts and sledges, horses bearing burdens, and men compelling them to go, an extempore road beaten in the snow soon leads one to the river bank again. Here the Turks have built a bridge of boats, thus uniting main and island. At a distance of about a mile nestles on the side of a hill the village or town of Kalafat. In summer it may be a pretty place to look at, as the sun sets brightly on its houses, and throws long shadows from the masts and rigging of the shipping on the Danube; but the view in winter, when a cloak of snow encases all, has little of the picturesque. With the exception, indeed, of a very few houses, the habitations of a Wallachian village are only visible to a practised eye; and, as I cast my glances over the panorama which spread before me from above the bridge, I wondered where were the 17,000 or 20,000 men whom I knew to be enclosed within the bounds of the intrenchment. As I approached the place the signs of life and preparation for an enemy were numerous. Orderlies were dashing about the



LANDING-PLACE, AT KALAFAT.

trodden snow; soldiers leading horses laden with provisions; Wallachs with their sledges and their oxen, drawing wood; while here and there a working party might be seen starting on its way. The only khan or café of this place was crowded with inmates, drinking raki and coffee, and smoking; some even playing on an antiquated billiard-table. There were six rents, of about six inches each in divers portions of the cloth, and the pockets might have held the head of a Bashi-bozouk. It seemed to me that the rents in the cloth were only artificial difficulties, made, like the intrenchments of Kalafat, to prevent the approach of the balls to the pockets. With the exception of this khan, and about two dozen houses

neatly whitewashed, there seemed to be nothing like habitations in Kalafat. It is true, the ground was here and there filled up by ancient maize-ricks and wicker-garners; pigs were moving in the straw; but the houses appertaining, it was vain to look for. Presently, however, I discovered, escaping from an opening in a mound covered with snow, a quantity of smoke; and then only it occurred to my bewildered senses that Kalafat after all might be a very large important village, of which the inhabitants lived underground, and so it proved.

Achmet Pasha, who inhabits one of the few houses in the village, received me with great politeness. He is a burly soldier, still young



BLOCKHOUSE OF TFFIK BEY, KALAFAT.



## SKETCHES FROM KALAFAT AND WIDDIN.



COOKING-TENT, AT KALAFAT.

and with the dark smooth skin of the Orientals. He was at that moment in the act of dining with Moustapha Pacha, Ferik, or Commandant of Cavalry, a soldier of the old Egyptian war, whose head is already turning to grey, but who preserves on his large person a considerable *embonpoint*. The two Generals' dinner appeared to consist of a gigantic *pillau* contained in an earthen vessel, into which they dipped their spoons alternately. There was a wooden bench for the use of guests, a wooden chest in a corner of the room, and a little book-case in which I could discover a "Manuel d'Artillerie" and a "Dictionnaire Turco-Francais." A little box, labelled in French "*Savon ponce*," was handed round, containing cigarettes; and then the conversation commenced in German, which is the European language spoken by Achmet Pacha. After a few compliments had been exchanged, permission was granted to see the entrenchment, and the interview was at an end. One more formality still remained to be performed, namely, the delivery of a letter to an officer of Chasseurs, with whom it was my intention to examine the works. A choausch of Achmet Pacha's guard led the way along the brow of a hill, covered sparsely with tents, and presently stopped at an aperture which seemed to lead into the bowels of the earth. Diving after the guide, it appeared that these were the quarters of Tefik Bey. On the left of the passage was a soldier at an earthen oven, cooking; a few kitchen utensils, sabres, muskets, and daggers, were lying about in confusion, together with the saucepans, and a military cloak. At the end of the passage a little door swung open, and a young and exceedingly European-looking officer appeared, who gave me

the most cordial reception. Some friends were with him. I send you a Sketch of the interior. The mode of building houses in Kalafat, is this:—The ground-plan of the dwelling is drawn out upon the ground, and then the house is dug out of the earth, those portions remaining alone

over this the earth is laid. In general, the only light within a Wallach room proceeds from the chimney, which, like that of Servian houses, is an important part of a domestic edifice; but this being the house of an officer, it boasted of three windows, two of which may be seen in the Sketch subjoined—their frames being stretched with oiled paper, which is by no means a good substitute for glass. The sides of the wall were covered with matting, under which at night the field mice made an incessant noise, and at the end was a slightly elevated part adorned with carpets, on which we sat. Here the daylight passed away, and the night came on in the midst of chat and smoking; and pipes as well as politics made us forget for a moment that Kalafat was a camp, on the attack of which was bent a powerful enemy, and where, within a week or less, a fierce engagement and sanguinary contest might take place. The evening gun had warned the troops that the camp was closed, when an excellent dinner was produced and heartily partaken of. One closing sight, it seemed, that I was destined to be greeted with—namely, a night inspection of the troops within the barracks. Preceded by a lantern, we left the hospitable roof of our host, and marched amidst the snow until we came in sight of a sentry. No call was made, and none of the precautions in use in garrisons appeared to be in practice. The soldier presented arms, and we dived into a passage similar to that above de-



BARRACK TENTS AND REDOUBT, KALAFAT.

untouched, that are to serve as party walls. A sloping way is made into the hole when it attains a depth of about seven feet. A pole is placed along the length of the aperture on the upper level. Other poles are thrown across, which form a roof. Mats are set upon the poles, and

scribed. But the sight within was curious. Standing up in double rank within this subterranean room were about 200 men all under arms. In front of them were soldiers who held aloft long candles, whose vacillating light brought sparks at times from the barrels of



ARRIVAL AT KALAFAT OF THE WOUNDED FROM CITATE.



the muskets, and dimly showed the forms and olive faces of the men, as they went through the manual exercise. The dimness of the light, the smoke of the candles, and the hoarse call of the drill-sergeants, together with the clank of the sabre of the commanding officer, gave the scene the aspect of a meeting of military conspirators. This dark and hidden drilling and manoeuvring in the night is a thing unlearned or untold in books, as far, at least, as the unilitary are concerned. It must be owned, however, that the scene was calculated to give a high idea of the cleanliness and discipline of the Turkish soldiers, who went through their exercise with great precision and spirit, and with a determination in their eye which one does not meet with in the drowsy-looking soldier of Austria, or even in our own military barracks.

Sleeping on mats promotes early rising, and the morning gun had hardly shaken with its loud report the walls of our dwelling and aroused the echoes of the hills, before we were on horseback and riding through the works. The village of Kalafat is on the side of the Danube, on a declivity sloping to the bank. The ground upon its sides, as well as in its rear, is hilly, and there the Turks have made their lines. Kalafat is the central point, and in front of it is a long intrenchment. This intrenchment is a ditch and parapet, which, in its course, forms salient angles in front of the enemy, the apex being broken and divided, like the cone of a volcano, by way of giving a flanking defence. The ditch and parapet about on the right and left upon the Danube, and are defended by forts which line the *enceinte continue*. A second and interior line of forts likewise defends the works and commands the ground in front of the intrenchment. The bridge upon the island is defended also by a work, and the island itself is fortified. It must be remembered that the relative positions of Kalafat and Widdin are incorrect in all the maps, which generally place the two as fronting each other on separate banks of the Danube. Kalafat, in reality, is a mile higher up the river than Widdin. Such, in general terms, is the present position of the Turks. In this intrenchment, which is amply provided with guns and ammunition, a portion only of the Turkish force at present remains, a part being in the villages which form the outposts, and the names of which have already been sent you. Here there have been some slight engagements, and hand-to-hand conflicts of little consequence. The Russians, who were marching out of Krajova, as my last letter informed you, are now at Radowan, Protura, and Kuraoul. Their numbers are uncertain. It is probable that they left Krajova, which is a town of about 70,000 souls, to make room for a body of 25,000 men, which, we are positively assured, left Bucharest on the 15th of last month. The distance by the road to Krajova is twelve posts of four hours each. It is impossible for troops to march more than one post per diem, one post being about six or seven hours' walk. The vanguard of this force may thus have reached Krajova on the 27th ult., and the rear about the 3rd inst. Under these circumstances, the Turks expect an attack, if not immediately, at least shortly. Three Russian battalions, which were at Czernetz, near Orsova, and which form a body of nearly 3000 men, have advanced to Citate, within five hours' march of Kalafat. Deceived by wrong information, the Turks, on the 1st inst., sent out a squadron of cavalry, which drove off a small number of Cossacks that were with the Russian infantry; but the latter had intrenched themselves with four guns, and the Turks retired with the loss of one man and a horse only. The Russians fired no less than eighty-five rounds, and their cannonade was heard during the day at Widdin, but what they fired at is uncertain, as the only Turk who was killed was shot by a Cossack. The force at Citate is part Russian and part forced Wallach levies. The Danube is still pouring down its ice-fields, but the weather since yesterday is milder, and the floes are smaller. The Danube will probably, therefore, not freeze upon its lower course this year.

P.S. The forces in Little Wallachia which are opposed to the Turks are commanded by General Fishbach, who has under him, it is said, Generals Engelhardt and Bellegarde. General Prince Vasilitchkoff commands the cavalry. Nothing lately has been heard of Osten Sacken's reserve corps, but it is improbable that Bucharest could be *dégariné* of 25,000 men, unless these troops had already arrived to fill up the gap. The corps of Osten Sacken is stated here to be composed of 40,000 men; that of Lüders, already in the Principalities, at 30,000—a portion of it, to the amount of 10,000 men, having been detached, it is supposed, to the Caucasus. With the remaining army corps, which first entered under Gortschakoff, the total of Russian force in the Principalities would thus be 110,000 to 120,000 men. But a considerable reduction must be made for sick, which are in its proportion of 20 to 25 per cent, and for small detachments, left here and there in Bessarabia, and other places where a feeling not exactly favorable to Russia has shown itself. The available force of the Russians in the Principalities, at present, may thus be calculated at 75,000 men, of which it is possible that at this moment there may be 30,000 in Little Wallachia.

The Turkish force has been strengthened since my last by 3000 men, from Lom, a small fortress below Widdin, on the Danube. The reserves are still on their way between Sofia and this point. The Russian force at Citate is now entrenched with eight guns. It seems a strange war, in which the invader intrenches himself to attack the invaded. In a case like the present, where the invading forces march forward, it is generally supposed that the opposite outposts fall back, in order that the whole of the disposable troops may be available in the trenches.

Jan. 7.

Before daybreak on the morning of yesterday a column of 10,000 men, consisting of Turkish regulars and chasseurs, under the command of Achmet Pacha and Ismail Pacha, 4000 cavalry under the orders of Moustapha Pacha, and 1000 Bashi-bozouks, or irregular cavalry, under Skender Bey, and fifteen guns, moved out of the intrenchments of Kalafat, taking the road which leads through Roman, Golontza, Purkuri, Moglavitz, Gunia, and Funtina, to Citate. At the same time, in order not to leave the intrenchment of Kalafat too bare of troops, 3000 men had crossed before daybreak from Widdin to the opposite side of the Danube. The Turkish force, under Achmet Pacha, reached Citate at about nine, and immediately attacked the village, which was held by 3000 Russian infantry and some cavalry, who were fortified in the streets with four guns. The village thus occupied by the Russians, and attacked by the Turks, is situated on a declivity, and surrounded almost by trees. Behind, and on the height, was a regular intrenchment, into which the enemy might retire if the village were forced. The Turks boldly attacked the village, which, after they had entered it, and been twice repulsed, they successfully carried, driving the Russian infantry into the trenches behind. Three hours were expended in the struggle, and a vigorous cannonade was commenced against the intrenchment. This second engagement had scarcely commenced, however, when a reinforcement from Karaoul was discovered to be approaching to the rescue of the Russians. This reinforcement, which is variously stated at from 5000 to 10,000 men, had marched from Karaoul, along the road which intersects the way between Kalafat and Citate at Funtina. It came up at a little after noon, but was not permitted to do much in favour of those whom it came to relieve. Whilst the attack on the intrenchment was maintained, and the diminished force within it kept fully occupied, the reinforcement was attacked by the Turks, and, after an hour's combat, completely put to flight, leaving upwards of 250 men upon the field; the ground remaining strewed with muskets, which were dropped loaded on the ground, and meal, which forms the food of the Russian soldier. The intrenchment was then attacked

with renewed vigour by the Turks, and carried, with the loss to the Russians of 2500 men, four guns, and a considerable quantity of ammunition and provisions. At half past three the forces of the Sultan were masters of the field, and the main body were distributed in the villages for the night. Ismail Pacha, Tefik Bey, Ali Bey, and Skender Bey, are noted as having gallantly conducted themselves. Ismail Pacha had two horses killed under him, and a bullet cut some curious figures upon his left arm. The loss of the Turks in killed and wounded I am unable to state at present. A few of the latter came into Kalafat about three o'clock in the afternoon. The day had been a splendid one. A change having taken place in the weather, it had rained in the night, and the sun rose splendidly upon a cloudless sky, shining all day with a warmth quite oppressive after so much cold, and laying bare for the first time to view the noble mountains that skirt the Danube below Widdin. It was really a noble sight to see these poor fellows, wounded as they were, make their way still upright on their horses to the landing-place. One poor fellow, a Bashi-bozouk, of about fifty, was lifted off his horse, in presence of Sami Pacha—who was present, and indefatigable in his exertions—and showed three bullet wounds. His shoulder had been shot through, as well as one of his arms, in two places; yet he had ridden from the field, and did not even faint as he was taken off his horse. Other more serious cases soon came up, the poor fellows being stretched on sledges, drawn by bullocks to the landing. Many of them had with them trophies from the field, such as Cossack lances, muskets still loaded, and swords.

The consequences of this victory, at the present juncture, it is not possible for me to appreciate fully; but they cannot but have considerable effect upon the course of pending negotiations.

Jan. 9.

The battle of Citate (and not Citale, as erroneously stated in the first account), is a remarkable instance of bravery displayed without any positive aim in view; and a proof, if any were required, that the Turks are quite equal to cope with a superior enemy in an open field. One great point is clear from the engagement, namely, that the less disciplined courage of the Turks, and the passive and low-spirited steadiness of the Russians, are not what in mechanics are called "two forces exactly equal and opposite." It is necessary for the full comprehension of this encounter that it should be related in some detail; and the facts which I sent you in the first flush of victory, although they may require some slight alteration, will be found to have been correct.

It was on Christmas morning (old style), and at the moment when the Russians and the Christian population of the Principalities, were preparing for a solemn religious festival, that ten battalions of Turkish infantry, partly regiments of the line, and partly *chasseurs*, left the intrenchments of Kalafat, and took the road to Citate. They were accompanied by four regiments of cavalry, under the command of Moustapha Pacha, Ferik, having under him Skender Bey, and 500 or 600 Bashi-bozouks, or irregular cavalry. Two batteries of six guns accompanied the infantry. Two battalions of light field-pieces followed the cavalry, and there were, besides, two howitzers. The road from Kalafat is a continuous ascent, and rises with various gradients to the summit of the hill, on the side of which is Citate. That village itself is a long and straggling one, consisting of a main street of a mile and a half in length, with a church in the centre, and various streets intersecting it. At the lower end of the main street, which was occupied by 3000 men, supported by some cavalry, the Russians had erected a battery; and at the upper end, a distance of two miles, they occupied a large redoubt with 1000 men and four guns. An inland lake, formed by the Danube, which skirts the village on the left, prevented an approach from that side.

The Turks, having left a battalion and a squadron of irregulars at Moglavitz, and a similar force at Gunia, to keep their communication open with Kalafat, appeared before Citate at seven in the morning; attacked the battery which defended the lower end of the street, with five battalions; whilst the cavalry made a circuit to the right, to cut off the retreat of the enemy. Achmet Pacha remained a little to the right with a reserve of three battalions and some cavalry, holding a good position on a hill that slopes down to a road leading from Respitsch to Citate. Ismail Pacha, who commanded the infantry against the village, and Tefik Bey, at the head of his regiment of Chasseurs, entered the main street after the Russians had been dislodged from their battery. The latter, however, had recovered by this time from their surprise; and, although many of the men, and even some of the officers, were fighting without their pantaloons, and others without their jackets, they disputed every inch of the ground. The description which I have given you of Kalafat, with its underground style of houses, and mass of maize ricks, will give you also an idea of what is Citate. Concealed in these houses, in holes and corners, and behind the hayricks, they kept up a galling fire, whilst their artillery played down the street. The Turks, however, steadily advanced, and a dreadful *mélée* soon commenced, the order of the Turkish battalions was broken; every man seemed to fight for himself, and on they went pell-mell, driving back the Russians, who gradually retired and concentrated their shattered force behind the church. At that moment the cavalry, which had moved to the right, commenced firing from a cross street that led direct to the church, with a battery of field-pieces. The Russians finding the place too hot for them, retired further along the main street; and the troops, under Ismail Pacha, continuing their onward course, the same system of defence amidst house and hayrick, was pursued by the enemy. A body of Bashi-bozouks kept charging in the cross streets, and killed a number of men. The battery which had been playing on the church being no longer useful, as the Russians were dislodged, four guns were moved on the right of the village, and directed against the intrenchment which the cavalry entered, and with its guns, held for a time. A battalion of infantry at this point would have enabled them to hold the position, and to destroy the Russians; but the latter, now hard pushed in the main street, cleared the intrenchment of the Turkish cavalry, and then commenced a galling fire of grape and shells, under which the Turks suffered considerably. It was at this moment, when the Ottomans were struggling against an intrenchment, where the Russians had the advantage of commanding the whole of the ground below it, that a Russian reinforcement of three regiments—one the regiment of Odessa, it is said, 3000 strong, and two of the 10th division, 6000 strong—together with 600 cavalry and nine guns, made its appearance on the road which leads from Respitsch to Citate, where, as has been previously stated, stood Achmet Pacha with the reserve. This reserve, meanwhile, had been reinforced by the two battalions from Gunia and Moglavitz. Three battalions were in front, supported by cavalry and a battery at each side, and two battalions remained in the rear, forming a reserve. The position of the Turks was thus critical to an extreme degree; the intrenchment keeping up a tremendous fire, whilst the Russian reinforcement threatened them on the other side. On came the fresh troops to the assault, at first by an attack of cavalry; whilst the Russian and Turkish battalions exchanged fire. The Cossacks did but little however, and were put immediately to flight, with considerable loss. The Russian infantry then rushed on to the attack, in columns; but, seeing some of the guns of the Turks dismounted, and in the act of being removed, they charged in battalions. The Turks, however, so far from having any intention of retiring, met the Russians, and repulsed them, and in a short time the whole of the latter were to be seen flying in every direction, strewing the field with dead, leaving two guns behind them, 700 muskets, and numbers of carts with provisions and ammunition.

The village of Citate had been completely carried at the same time that the troops under Achmet Pacha obtained this victory; but there remained still the intrenchment to take. The Turks, however, feared lest additional reinforcements might come up and cut off their communication with Kalafat. They retired, leaving two guns behind them, which they lost in the retreat of their cavalry from the intrenchment. The Russian provisions and ammunition, which they strewed about, from inability to carry it; and the muskets, of which they broke the locks on the field, to render them useless. Most of the troops bivouacked in the villages between Citate and Kalafat; and at noon, on the 7th, the Turks had returned to their trenches: the Russians, on their side, merely stopping in Citate to bury their dead and carry away what remained fit to remove of their provisions and ammunition. Military men, more skilled in their profession than the Turks, will find much to blame in the proceedings of the day; and doubtless the Ottoman General did not show on this occasion any considerable skill as regards purpose or plan; but the fact still remains a great and glorious one for Achmet Pacha and his troops, that they forced double their number of Russians in an open field, and reduced them to an ignominious flight.

It is a curious circumstance, and one which leads to considerable reflection, that two prisoners only are the result of this engagement. And from the well-known habit of the Turkish Irregulars not to spare a living enemy, it is to be feared that many men were massacred in cold blood after they had surrendered. The loss of the Russians in killed is estimated at 1000, and 2000 wounded; that of the Turks is 400 killed, and 700 wounded.

[Sami Pacha, the present Governor of Widdin (whose portrait we have engraved from our Correspondent's Sketch), is well known in the circles of London and Paris as a man of refined courtesy and gentlemanly bearing, who, having been long the right-hand man of Mohammed Ali, is now (Redschid Pacha always excepted) one of the ablest of the Turkish statesmen. The administration of the Pacha of Widdin is no common task even in the most tranquil times. The Pacha requires to be perfectly informed of what is passing among the Bulgarians, and to act accordingly. He must also be an experienced and punctual man of business, so as to deal with the multifarious military and civil persons crowded here, and manipulate the vast *matériel* converging to this base of command. In these respects the ability of Sami Pacha is not to be disputed. Sami Pacha was recently described as wearing in divan a sable pelisse of that gorgeous old Oriental amplitude which, in the eyes of the Ulema, is so much more pleasing than the starved scanty Frank cut introduced by Sultan Mahmoud, and so much more suitable to the environs of the Danube and the Balkan. Ismail Pacha was present, a Turk of the old school, but looking what he is every inch of him, a fearless captain.]

#### WARLIKE INDICATIONS.

The war-steamer *Banshee* arrived at Lisbon, on the 17th, with despatches for the British Admiral, and immediately afterwards the British squadron was under orders for sea. The destination of Admiral Corry's squadron was unknown.

The seamen belonging to the *Thetis* were "paid-down" on Monday, when they were informed that they shall have their pay and six weeks' leave of absence; and, on their return, if matters wear a peaceful aspect, they will be paid off. Before the seamen left, "all hands" were piped on the quarter-deck. In a few minutes Admiral Dundas appeared, and thus addressed the assembled crew:—"My men, I have come down, by request of the Board of Admiralty, to make known to you that we are on the eve of a war, and that war with Russia. My object, therefore, in addressing you by desire of their Lordships, is to prepare you for such event; and I am sure you will receive this announcement as becomes Englishmen and British sailors. It is my duty to inform you that the country cannot dispense with your services, however hard it may appear after your having been away for so long a period; yet, the exigencies of the service must be paramount to all other considerations. Instead, therefore, of your being paid off, you will all be paid down. You shall have a few weeks' run, after which I feel assured that you will act as British seamen ever have done in defence of their country. I trust you will receive this communication in its right and proper light, and I make this known to you thus early to prevent any feelings of disappointment. I have earnestly to hope that the evil may yet pass away, but we must be prepared for any and every emergency. 'Pipe down.'"

THE PEACE SOCIETY AND THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—The *Times* states that a deputation from the Peace Society has just left England for St. Petersburg, to endeavour to induce the Czar to come to terms with Turkey. The deputation consists of Mr. Henry Pease, of Darlington; Mr. Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham; and a gentleman from Bristol. The secretary of the Peace Society states that the gentlemen named have gone as a deputation from the Society of Friends.

CABINET COUNCIL.—A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign Office, Downing-street, on Tuesday afternoon. The Ministers present were—the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, Viscount Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon, the Duke of Newcastle, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir Wm. Molesworth. The Council sat four hours.

ATTENDANCE OF COUNSEL IN CHANCERY.—A very useful arrangement has been come to among her Majesty's counsel attending the various branches of the Court of Chancery, by which much loss of time will be avoided. Hitherto, many of the gentlemen within the bar have practised in more than one of the inferior courts, and, in some instances, in more than two. Now, however, they have agreed that they will divide themselves into four bodies, to supply a distinct inner bar for the Rolls' Court and the three Courts of the Vice-Chancellors. The effect of this will be obviously very advantageous to the sutors of the Court of Chancery, for the difficulty and delay constantly arising in the hearing of matters when called on, in consequence of the absence of counsel, had become oppressive. Now, however, the only claim upon the attention of Queen's counsel, away from their several courts, will be the duty of attendance before the Lord Chancellor or Lords Justices, on appeals from the inferior branches of the Court. The choice among the learned counsel is understood to be as follows:—Before the Master of the Rolls: Messrs. Roupell, Lloyd, Rounsell Palmer, and Follett. Before Vice-Chancellor Kindersley: Messrs. Swanton, Cooper, Teed, Campbell, Bailey, and Gasse. Before Vice-Chancellor Stuart: Messrs. Walker, Wigram, Bacon, Malins, Elmsley, and Craig; and before Vice-Chancellor Wood: Messrs. Rolt, Chandless, Wilcock, Daniel, and W. M. James. Messrs. Lee, Temple, J. Russell, Headlam, and Anderson are understood not to have yet made their election of particular courts.

LONDON ORPHAN ASYLUM.—The annual court of this institution, founded in 1813, for the reception, maintenance, and education of destitute orphans, particularly those descended from respectable parents, was held at the London Tavern on Monday. From the report of the board of management, for the year ending the 31st of December, 1853, it appears that there were then 398 children in the asylum, and that it was intended to elect thirty children by ballot, making the whole number of inmates 428. The total number of children admitted since 1813 was 2111, of whom upwards of 1600 completed their course of education, and were assisted towards obtaining an honourable livelihood. The total receipts of the charity from all sources during the past year amounted to £11,238 17s. 1d. The expenditure during the same period exceeded that of 1852, in consequence of the high price of provisions, and amounted to £11,540 9s. 4d., leaving due to the treasurer £301 12s. 3d. The average charge for each child for the year was £28 9s. 7d. The legacies received during the past year amounted to £1872. The report was adopted, and the Earl of Harrowby was elected one of the vice-presidents. In the course of the day thirty children were admitted to the institution by ballot.

ESCAPE OF TWO CONVICTED PRISONERS.—Thomas Richardson and John Clark, two convicted prisoners, contrived to escape from Horsefouler-lane Gaol, in a very singular manner, on Tuesday. Both prisoners were tried at the December sessions for Surrey, and convicted for robberies with violence. Richardson was sentenced to six years' and Clark to two years' penal servitude. The prisoners so convicted are employed in the prison, chiefly in cutting wood, and tying it up in bundles to be sold among the shopkeepers. At eight o'clock, while the turnkeys were at breakfast, the two convicts got over the wall at the rear of the green, and succeeded in making their escape. They had by some means contrived to make a ladder with pieces of spun yarn and wood. A large stone was affixed at one end, and thrown over the wall, where it got attached to the coping-stone. The prisoners having climbed that, let themselves down into Mr. Felowes's rope-work, and crossed it unperceived by the workmen. A lad named Dunn, however, saw them, and pursued them as far as Lock's fields; but he was obliged to give up the chase, and the convicts made their escape. Richardson was a desperate fellow, having been previously transported for felony. Both of them are well known to the police; and as telegraphic messages have been forwarded all over the country, they are likely to be re-taken.



OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE HON. ROBERT HENRY CLIVE, M.P.

The death of this gentleman, M.P. for South Shropshire, a Lieutenant-Colonel in the army, and Colonel of the Worcestershire Yeomanry, occurred on the 20th inst. He was second son of Edward, 1st Earl of Powis, and grandson of the renowned military commander, Robert, Lord Clive. Through his mother, Henrietta Antonia, daughter of Henry Arthur Earl Powis, Colonel Clive descended from the Herberts, the former inheritors of that illustrious title.

He was born 15th January, 1789, and married, 19th June, 1819, Lady Harriet Windsor, daughter of Other Hickman, 5th Earl of Plymouth, and by her Ladyship (who is co-heir of the Barony of Windsor) has left three sons and three surviving daughters. Of the former, the eldest, Robert Clive, Esq., M.P., is married to Lady Mary Selina Louisa Bridgeman, daughter of the Earl of Bradford.

Colonel Clive was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, and there graduated as LL.D. He sat in Parliament for Ludlow from 1818 to 1832, and for South Shropshire since the latter year.

THOMAS BOYSE, ESQ., OF BANNOW, COUNTY WEXFORD.

MR. BOYSE, of Bannow, died at Roebuck House, on the 14th inst., aged seventy-two. He was eldest son of the late Samuel Boyse, Esq., of Bannow, by Dorothy, his wife, daughter of Robert Shapland Carew, Esq., of Castleborough, county Wexford. His next brother, Lieutenant-Colonel Shapland Boyse, C.B., commanded the 13th Light Dragoons at Waterloo. Mr. Boyse, although of late years he took no very prominent part in politics, was, at all times, a firm advocate of Liberal opinions, and of just Government for Ireland. Of Thomas Moore he was one of the most cherished personal friends; and the poet's visit to Bannow, with the popular rejoicings it occasioned, formed an interesting and well-remembered incident in the bard's life. Several members of the Boyse family represented Bannow in the Irish Parliament.

ANTHONY GEORGE WRIGHT BIDDULPH, ESQ., OF BURTON PARK, SUSSEX.

The death of this country gentleman, the representative of the great house of Biddulph of Biddulph, and formerly one of the co-heirs of the barony of Camoys, occurred at Tunbridge-wells on the 14th inst., after a long protracted illness.

Mr. Wright Biddulph (brother of Mr. John Wright, the banker) was eldest son of Anthony Wright, Esq., by Lucy, his wife, daughter of Edmund Plowden, Esq., and grandson of Anthony Wright, Esq., of Wealside, Essex, by Anne, his wife, daughter and co-heir of John Biddulph, Esq., of Biddulph and Burton, whose mother, Anne, daughter and heir of Sir Henry Goring, Bart., of Burton, was lineally descended from Margaret, sister and co-heir of Hugh, Lord Camoys.

"The Biddulphs do derive themselves," says Erdeswick, "from one Ormus le Guidon, son of Ricardus Forestarius, of Norman race, who held, as appears by Domesday-book, ten Lordships in Staffordshire, which were conferred on him in reward of his services."

The chief line of the Biddulphs was that represented by Mr. Wright Biddulph; of the younger branches the principal are the Biddulphs of Birdingbury, Barons, the Biddulphs of Ledbury, and Chirk Castle, &c.

The gentleman whose death we record succeeded to the family estates at the decease, unmarried, of his kinsman, the late John Biddulph, Esq., of Biddulph, 2nd August, 1835; and assumed, in consequence, the additional surname and arms of Biddulph. He was born 20th April, 1785, and married, 15th January, 1827, Catherine Dorothy, eldest daughter of the late S. T. Scrope, Esq., of Danby, by whom he leaves, besides daughters, a son—Anthony John, now of Burton-park.

WILLIAM RICKFORD, ESQ., LATE M.P. FOR AYLESBURY.

This venerable gentleman died on the 14th inst., at his house, in Green-end, Aylesbury, aged eighty-five. He was a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for the county of Bucks, and represented the borough of Aylesbury in eight successive Parliaments—from 1818 to the close of the session of 1841—when he retired.

He was born Nov. 30, 1768, the only son of the late William Rickford, Esq.; and married, Sept. 28, 1791, Mary Vanderhelm, by whom he leaves an only surviving daughter, Harriet, wife of Sir Astley Paston Cooper, Bart., of Gadesbridge Park, Herts.

COLONEL MURTON

COLONEL MURTON, who died on the 6th inst., at Brompton, served in the North Sea and Helder expedition, in 1799; in the Egyptian expedition, in the East Indies, in 1801; and in the West Indies in 1804. He was engaged on the coast of France, and with the enemy's flotilla and batteries, in 1805; was in the Mediterranean in 1806; and took part in cutting out the enemy's vessels from under batteries, for which he was voted a sword from the Patriotic Fund in 1809. He served, subsequently, on the coast of Spain, aiding the Guerrillas; and was in Holland in 1813. He had a medal, as well as a silver war medal for services in Egypt.

WILLIAM PAWSON, ESQ., OF SHAWDON, NORTHUMBERLAND.

MR. PAWSON, who died at Edinburgh, on the 5th instant, deeply lamented, entered the Royal Navy at the time of action of Camperdown as midshipman, on board *The Venerable*, Flag-ship of Admiral Duncan, and subsequently served in her, under his uncle, Admiral Sir George Fairfax. He continued to be actively employed until the peace of 1815, in the Channel, Mediterranean, and West Indian Squadrons; serving in the *Courageux*, *Chesapeake*, and other ships. He was wrecked on the coast of Holland, during the French occupation of that country, and was detained, a prisoner of war, until exchanged into the *Desirée* frigate, and sent home, as acting Prize Master, in a vessel she had taken. On the passage across to Yarmouth, the prisoners attempted to recapture the ship, when Mr. Pawson, by his energetic measures, and with his small crew of a single midshipman and six seamen, succeeded in subduing the outbreak, and brought the prize safe into port.

The Pawsons, a family of great antiquity in Yorkshire, are first mentioned in the reign of Henry IV., anno 1405.

The gallant officer, the subject of this notice, was born in May, 1780, and married, in 1817, Mary-Anne, daughter of the Rev. R. Trotter, of Morpeth, by whom he leaves a son and heir, William John Pawson, Esq., now of Shawdon. In the year of his marriage (1817) Mr. Pawson, by the death of his brother, George Pawson Hargreaves, Esq., became possessed of the Shawdon estates; and in 1826, served as High Sheriff of Northumberland.

WILLS.—The late Mrs. Frances Dorothy Hoare, widow of the banker, died, possessed of £8,000 personalty, and a life interest in the national debt at Daish's 2000; to the Plymouth and Devonport Dispensary, £2000; and to the Blind Asylum, Exeter, £100; appointing as her sole executrix Mrs. Frances Campbell, who is beneficially interested under the will. The following wills and estates have also been administered to:—Mrs. Louisa Selina Culling Smith, sister of Sir Culling Eardley Smith, has left personal property amounting to £25,000. Mr. John Constable, of Ballham-hill, wholesale druggist, personal estate valued at £30,000, which he has bequeathed amongst his family.

CHESS.

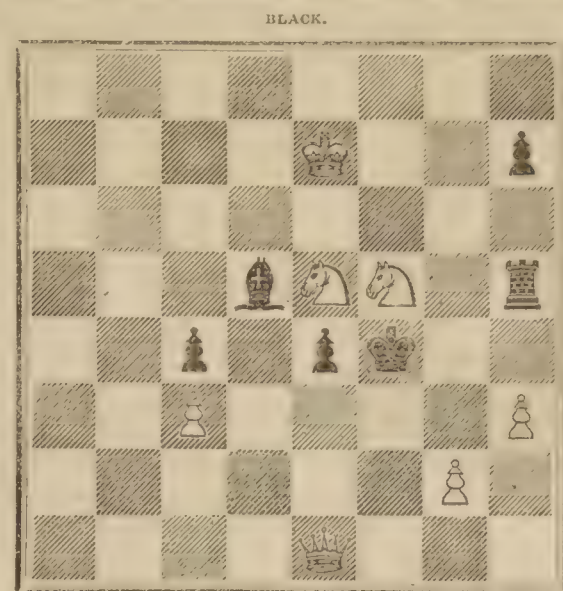
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

RUCARDO.—1. Not certainly not. Such a collection, if made at all, must be made by the proprietor of the paper to whom the games, &c., belong. 2. What do you imply by a "substitute?" The challenge was open to any one without exception. 3. The Problem shall have attention. W. C. S.—1. They will probably be so published, but we cannot say when. 2. The "Stanton Chess Men." If we mistake not, may now be procured from 1. to ten guineas the set. 3. Yes, the first edition is very faulty, owing to the haste with which it was brought out. 4. Your Problem admits of an easy solution in four moves. R. D. M.—The game shall be examined. As to the solution, that is a palpable failure. J. P. of Manchester.—Ingenious, though somewhat too easy. Persevere. SIGNOR A.—They shall be reported on next week. SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 518, by Ernest, Ostro, Jack of Worcester, J. K. B.; F. R.; of B. are correct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 518.  
WHITE. BLACK.  
1. K B to K B 5th Q takes B, or (a)  
(ch)  
2. Kt to Q B 5th K takes B  
(ch)  
(a) 1. K B to K B 5th (ch) K takes B  
2. Kt to Q B 5th (ch) K to his 3rd  
3. P to K B 5th (ch) K to his 2nd

PROBLEM No. 519.

This beautiful little stratagem is the invention of Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.



White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN RUSSIA.

Lively Game between Prince D. OUDOUSSOFF and Mr. JAENISCH.  
(Evans' Gambit.)

WHITE (Prince O.)	BLACK (Mr. J.)	WHITE (Prince O.)	BLACK (Mr. J.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	19. Q B to Q B sq	P to K B 5th
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	20. Q B to Q 2nd	Kt to K Kt 5th
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	21. P to Q 4th (c)	Kt to K R 3rd
4. P to Q Kt 4th	P to Q 4th (a)	22. Kt to Q B 3rd	Q to K B 4th
5. B takes Q P	Kt takes Q Kt P	23. Kt to K 4th	P to K Kt 4th
6. B to Q Kt 3rd	Q to K 2nd	24. Q R to Q Kt 3rd	B to Q Kt sq
7. P to K R 3rd	Q B to Q 2nd	25. Q to Q 3rd	P to K Kt 5th
8. Q B to Q Kt 2nd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	26. K R to Q Kt sq	K R to K R 2nd
9. P to Q 3rd	Castles on Q side	27. R Ks Q Kt P (d)	R takes R
10. B to Q 5th	P to K B 4th	28. Q to Q R 6th	Q to K B 2nd
11. B takes Kt	B takes B	29. Kt to Q B 5th	Q R to Q 2nd
12. Kt takes K P	Q takes K P	30. Kt takes K R	Q R takes Kt
13. Castles	Q to K Kt 4th	31. Q Ks Q B P (ch)	R to Q B 2nd
14. K Kt to K B 3rd	B takes Kt	32. Q takes Kt	R to Q Kt 2nd
15. Q takes B	Kt to K B 3rd	33. Q to K R 8th (ch)	K to Q B 2nd
16. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to K R 4th	34. B Ks K B P (ch)	Q takes B
17. Kt to Q R 4th (b)	B to Q 3rd	35. Q to K R 7th (ch)	
18. Q R to Q Kt sq	P to Q B 3rd		And wins.

(a) We should like to see this defence fairly tested in a long series of games between these two accomplished players.  
(b) The attack on the one side, and the counter-attack on the other, now render the game very animated and amusing.  
(c) Well played. Had he taken the Kt, it is needless to say he must have lost the battle.  
(d) Well played again. From this moment White has the game in his hands.

Another entertaining Game between the same players.  
(Bishop's Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. J.)	BLACK (Prince O.)	WHITE (Mr. J.)	BLACK (Prince O.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	15. K to Kt sq	P to K B 4th
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	16. Q to K sq	Q to K Kt 3rd
3. B to Q B 4th	Q to K R 5th (ch)	17. P takes P	P takes P
4. K to B sq	P to K Kt 4th	18. R takes R (ch)	B takes R
5. Kt to Q B 3rd	B to K Kt 2nd	19. Kt to K 5th	B takes Kt
6. P to Q 4th	P to Q 3rd	20. Q takes B	B to Q 2nd
7. Kt to K B 3rd	Q to K R 4th	21. B to Q 2nd	Kt to Q B 3rd
8. P to K 5th	P takes P	22. Q to K R 8th (ch)	B to K sq
9. Q Kt to Q 5th	P to K 7th (a)	23. R to K sq	Kt to K 2nd
10. Q to K sq	K to Q 4th	24. R to K 6th	Q to K R 4th
11. Q takes K P	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	25. Q to K B 6th	Q to K R 2nd
	(b)	26. Q takes K Kt P	Q to K B 2nd (c)
12. P to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K 2nd	27. K to Q 6th (ch)	P takes R
13. Kt takes Kt	Kt takes Kt	28. B takes Q and wins.	
14. P to K R 4th	P to K R 3rd		

(a) This, according to Mr. Jaenisch (who, probably knows the Bishop's Gambit in all its multitudinous varieties better than any player living), is a better move of defence than the generally accepted one of K to Q sq. See the admirable articles on the subject by this distinguished master in the *Chess Player's Chronicle* of last year.  
(b) The coup d'etat here is P to Q B 3rd, followed, after the retirement of White's Kt, by Kt to K 2nd, &c.  
(c) An oversight, we presume; but his game was irretrievably gone, play what he could.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 855. Schachzeitung.

White: K at Q 3rd, R at K Kt 6th, B at Q 4th, Kt at K B 3rd.  
Black: K at Q 4th, P at Q 2nd.  
White to play, and mate in four moves.

No. 860.—By F. M.

White: K at K R 3rd, Q at K Kt 6th, Bs at K 4th and Q B sq, Kts at Q 5th and Q Kt 7th, P at K B 3rd.  
Black: K at Q 5th, Q at Q R 7th, R at Q R sq, B at Q Kt sq; Ps at K 6th, Q Kt 5th, and Q R 4th.  
White to play and mate in four moves.

A NEW CART.—A Lyons journal states that a new plan of building carts and other vehicles has been discovered, by which a horse can be made to draw a load one-half heavier than by carts as at present constructed. The new vehicle has four wheels, and when the horse is harnessed the foremost pair come to about the middle of his body. The weight is thrown on the axles, and the vehicle is constructed in such a way that part of it covers the horse up to the neck.

A DEVOUT QUEEN.—As Queen Maria Christina was passing along the Calle de Alca, says a Madrid paper, she met a priest carrying the sacrament to a poor sick man. Her Majesty immediately got out of her carriage, made the priest enter it, and followed the vehicle, with a wax candle in her hand, through the dirty streets to the sick man's residence; after which she proceeded on foot to the parish church.

LAWYERS IN GERMANY.—The *Weimar Cabinet* warns parents and guardians to dissuade their sons and wards from the study of law, if they do not possess private means of subsistence, there being now more than one hundred distinguished graduates in the profession who have not the least prospect of getting a place.

NOVEL MODE OF LIGHTING FLEET-STREET.—A scene of a somewhat novel character occurred opposite the establishment of Messrs. G. W. Lees and Co., Fleet-street, between six and seven o'clock on Monday evening. A wagon-load of coke, belonging to Mr. Thompson, of Crown-street, Soho, ignited into a blaze; and, but for the timely and valuable assistance of Messrs. G. W. Lees and their assistants, the damage would have been considerable. They readily supplied the men with water in buckets passed from one another, which, happily, extinguished the fire before the arrival of the engines.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Mr. Bromley, Secretary to the Audit Board, and Mr. Stephenson of the Treasury, are engaged upon a Commission of Inquiry into the present state of the Board of Works and Poor-law Commission Offices in Ireland.

Letters from Brussels state that an immediate advance in the rate of discount is expected to be announced by the National Bank of Belgium. Up to the present time it has been as low as two per cent.

The wife of an Irish farmer, named Farrelly, being ill, sent for her sister to visit her; the latter, on her arrival, found her sister breathing her last. The shock killed her; and both were interred in the same grave on the same day.

The committee of the Royal Free Hospital, at its weekly meeting, elected Mr. Thomas Weedon Cooke, of Upper Berkeley-street, Portman-square to the post of surgeon in that institution, vacant by the dismissal of Mr. Gay.

On Monday Mr. Besley was elected a Common Councilman for the ward of Aldersgate; and Mr. Slowman was duly elected in the same capacity for the ward of Billingsgate.

The Emperor Francis Joseph will leave for Munich in the course of next month, on a short visit to his royal relatives there.

Lieutenant-Colonel Vickers, and three other engineer officers, have been ordered by the British Government to attend the British squadron in the Black Sea.

In Birmingham, from the 1st January to the 31st Dec., 1853, there was an increase of 2,784 houses, exclusive of warehouses, manufactories, and multitudes of other buildings, springing up on every side and invading the agricultural precincts of Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Staffordshire.

Mr. E. T. Smith, of Drury-lane, is about to build a new large theatre on the site of the Shadwell workhouse.

Sir Cusack Stoney, the active secretary of the directing committee of the Dublin Exhibition, is on a visit to Brussels.

The East Indian Railway is attracting many native chiefs from the interior to Bombay. Among others, the young Holkar has been there; and a Rajpoot, said to be descended from the Porus of classic story.

Should the Russian Ambassadors in Paris and London be obliged to quit their respective courts, they will retire to the Hague, where they will wait for further orders.

Robert Stephenson, Esq., M.P. for Whitby, has distributed coal-tickets among the poor, through the medium of his committee, to the value of £100.

The betrothal of Prince Friedrich Carl Nicolaus, the son of Prince Carl of Prussia, with Princess Maria Anna of Anhalt, took place on the 15th inst., at the Ducal Palace in Dessau.

The barque *Tuncard*, of Liverpool, bound for Smyrna, with a cargo of coals, has been lost off Arklow Head; the captain and all hands saved.

The Californian newspapers, in their announcements of births, add to the sex of the child its weight!

Her Majesty's Commissioners of Emigration require four more ships: two for Victoria, and two for Geelong—one to be ready on the 7th, and the other on the 10th March.

The Missouri Legislature (U.S.) has before it a bill providing that no married man shall be allowed to endorse a note without the consent of his wife, and that no endorsement shall be valid in law without such consent.

The Lords of the Treasury have, for the present, refused the application for establishing bonded warehouses in the Isle of Man.

M. Bardi, engraver to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, and justly celebrated in his art, died at Florence on the 15th, in his 70th year.

At the end of 1852, the tonnage of vessels registered as belonging to the British empire was 424,392. To navigate this immense marine, 243,512 men and boys are constantly required.

Philip E. Wouchouse, Esq., formerly of Ceylon, and now Superintendent at Honduras, is to succeed Sir Henry Barkly in the government of British Guiana.

Stephen Rice, Esq., has been appointed Treasurer for Prince Edward Island.

In 1852, 6740 boxes and bags of foreign mails were despatched by the West India, Brazil, Peninsular, and Alexandrian packets. In 1853, there were 8861 boxes and bags of mails despatched for those packets, the increase being 1621 bags and boxes.

According to the *Impartial de Smyrne*, the Governor of Smyrna is taking energetic measures to prevent further excesses against the Christians.

Twenty-two shipwrights have given notice for leaving Devonport Dockyard, for the purpose of joining Mr. Mare's yard at Blackwall, where they are to have 6s. per day, and constant work for three years, being an increase of about 10s. per week.

The *Cologne Gazette* states that the dispute between the Government of Baden and the clergy has been brought to a final and friendly arrangement.

The imports of the precious metals last week were large, amounting to about £575,000 according to one authority, and £640,000 by another, of which nearly one-half was silver. The exports were £300,000.

Three Polish Generals have been received into the Turkish service, and have been named Arslan Pacha, Shahin Pacha, and Toufau Pacha. They have adopted these denominations without abjuring the Christian faith.

The following notice has been issued by the Postmaster-General:—Australia.—The next mails for New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Van Dieman's Land, will be despatched from Southampton by the steamer *Diosphoros* on the 4th proximo.

The fine screw-ship *Colombo*, built by Napier, for the Peninsular and Oriental Company, having received some slight damage to her main shaft, will leave Southampton for the building premises of her constructors in Scotland.

On Tuesday last, the imports of precious metals amounted to £467,253—the *Northburgh Castle*, from Melbourne, bringing £287,628; and the *Africa*, from America, about £180,000.

The *New York Tribune* announces the receipt of private letters from M. Kossuth, stating his intention of leaving on the 23rd ult., for Constantinople.

Mr. Colquhoun, British Consul-General for Wallachia, has arrived from Bucharest, being recalled from that post at Constantinople.

The late Mr. Peter Cooper, of New York, has left nearly half a million of dollars to found an institution for the diffusion of education.

The Cambridge Town-council are about to petition the House of Commons to adopt stringent measures for the more effectual suppression of electoral corruption.

The celebrated swordsman, Corporal Newton (1st Life Guards), who had exhibited his dexterity before the Queen and Prince Albert, and the Court, was buried at Clewer on Tuesday, with the usual military honours.

The extensive flour-mills at Ballyclough, near Limerick, have been destroyed by fire. They had been insured for £2000 only a fortnight before.

Advices from Havannah report that five vessels were fitting out there for the slave-trade. It was also reported that a cargo of slaves had been landed on the coast.

The whole amount of insured property in this country is £900,000,000, while the amount insurable, but not insured, is valued at £270,000,000.

According to the advices from Berlin, the Russian Government are said to have resolved upon an increase of £9,500,000 in their paper circulation, to meet the costs of the armaments in progress.

Lord Campbell has decided, in the case of the Queen v. the Russell Institution, that a society whose chief feature is a newspaper reading-room, is not a society for the cultivation of literature, science, and the arts; and, therefore, not entitled to exemption from rates.

Silvio Pellico, the well-known author of "Le Mie Prigioni," is dangerously ill. Since his liberation in 1830 he has led a retired life, and has not taken any part in public life.

In a lecture delivered at Dudley, last week, Mr. S. H. Blackwell, F.G.S., estimated the present annual production of iron in this country at 3,000,000 tons.

An immense railway club, or hotel, is proposed to be formed at Paris, a mere travellers' club and everything they require.

The Post-office, and the whole of the offices of the *Times*, are arranged with canal-gas, purified on the premises, under Mr. Leslie's patent. The Post-office is now consuming 125,000 cubic feet less per week than before the alteration.

On the 20th, the Piedmontese Chamber of Deputies passed the bill for repealing the import duties on corn.

The large landed proprietors of Prussia have presented Mr. Wagner, ex-editor of the *New Prussian Gazette*, with 100,000 thalers (£15,000), to indemnify him for the annoyances to which he had been subjected by his devotedness to their cause.

Twenty-two recruiting parties left the garrison at Woolwich, on Friday and Saturday last, and seventeen additional recruiting parties left on Monday—making a total of thirty-nine recruiting parties sent into the country on three successive week days to enlist young men for that branch of her Majesty's service.





SHOEMAKERS' WORKSHOP.

### THE LONDON REFORMATORY INSTITUTION, GREAT SMITH-STREET, WESTMINSTER.

SOME fourteen years ago the attention of Mr. Nash (now the Governor and Corresponding Secretary of this Institution) was turned to the state of our criminal population; and, after much careful investigation, he concluded that, in numberless instances, the pressure of outward circumstances, rather than the inward evil propensity, led to a violation of the law. His attention was especially directed to those who had been already imprisoned, and whose character and circumstances, imprisonment had rendered trebly wretched. In the great majority of instances, the discharged prisoner is without friends as well as pecuniary resources. If he have friends, they have not sufficient influence to help him forward; or, if they be respectable and influential, they generally feel themselves disgraced by his crimes, and abandon him to their consequences. Thus it is that the discharged prisoner seeks the association of his former wicked companions, and is led on, step by step, in folly and crime. In many instances resolutions of amendment are formed; but the individual can rarely place himself in a position favourable for carrying out such resolutions. His character is lost; and without a respectable recommendation he cannot obtain an honest employment.

Mr. Nash is not one of those theorists who propound schemes of benevolence from the desk or study, and leave the performance of them to the public. His benevolence has more of the practical than the ideal. He could not write and make speeches, while his fellow-men were starving; while their present position was becoming utterly wretched, and their future destiny hopeless and irretrievable. But he determined upon a plan, and he immediately and successfully reduced it to practice, by opening a Reformatory Institution for Adult Male Criminals, in 1848, the first establishment either in this country, or the Continent—the first, in fact, of which we have any notice. The prospect of success, at first, seemed very doubtful. Nash's means were limited, so much so, that he has been obliged to pawn his coat, sometimes his only one, to supply the objects of his benevolence with daily food. Some persons averred that his life was in danger, that the reckless and lawless inmates of his dwelling would first rob, and then assassinate him. But he was alike heedless of the suggestions of the fearful and the sceptical. He brought the criminal into contact with the highest and best moral influences. His little household, for it was at first very limited, soon became enlightened, and in their general deportment gave the most satisfactory evidence that a great moral change was working within them.

We have alluded to the early embarrassment of Mr. Nash; but he "lived by faith." He knew his principle was a good one, and he felt persuaded that in time the Christian public would enable him to develop his plans more fully. Among the earliest supporters of the Institution, we find Lord Ashley (now the Earl of Shaftesbury), Samuel Gurney, Esq.; Mrs. Schwabbe, of Manchester; Miss Howell, Rev. D. H. Battersby, M.A.; Mrs. Gladwell, Joseph Payne, Esq.; George Hitchcock, Esq.; the late Mr. Merishaw, Lord de Mauley, the late Lord Bishop of Llandaff, H. R. H. the late Duke of Cambridge, Lieut.-Col. Douglas, Ernest Bunsen, Esq.; Lord Bishop of Durham, Right Hon. Fox Maule (now Lord Panmure); Lieut. Blackmore, J. E. Willis, Esq.; Earl of Carlisle, Lady Radstock, the Ladies Greville, Lady H. Russell, Lord Palmerston, the Bishop of Manchester, Miss Portal, Giles Redmayne, the Earl of Ellesmere, &c.

For the first two years after the Institution was founded, it was conducted, without a committee, through many struggles and much privation. However, a committee was formed, with the Earl of Shaftesbury as President.

The committee is composed of clergymen of the Church of England, of Dissenting Ministers, and of professional and private gentlemen.

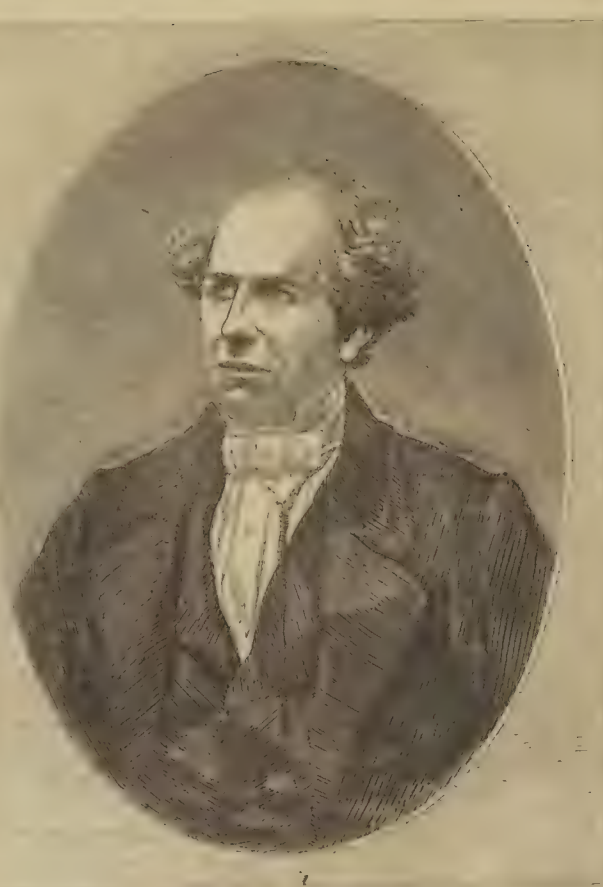
The great aim of the Reformatory is not merely to reform, but to regenerate. Mr. Nash holds two religious services each day, in which he expounds the Scriptures, dwelling chiefly on the love of God as exhibited in the gift of his Son. On Sundays the inmates attend two services in a public place of worship, in addition to the religious exercises of the Institution. The Sunday-School is also held morning and evening; and kind and pious teachers attend, under the able superintendence of Mr. Taylor.

In addition to the moral and religious training, the inmates are taught printing, shoemaking, tailoring, and carpentering; so that when they leave the Institution they can earn an honest living either at home or abroad. Since the establishment of the Institution there have been, of the inmates—

Sent out as emigrants ..	190
Sent to situations ..	46
Restored to their friends ..	26
Enlisted for soldiers ..	21
Gone to sea ..	3
Deceased ..	1
Sent to juvenile institutions ..	75
Now in the Institution ..	103
	465

Making a total of 465 redeemed from crime and degradation.

The average applications for admission are about 80 per week, or somewhat more than 4000 per year. The want of funds necessarily obliges Mr. Nash to reject a great many applicants, whom he would otherwise receive. In every instance the application



MR. C. NASH, GOVERNOR OF THE LONDON REFORMATORY INSTITUTION.

must be voluntary; and, as a proof of the applicant's sincerity, he undergoes a fortnight's voluntary and solitary confinement in his probation-room, on bread and water. This test insures the sincerity of the applicant, and affords an effectual check to imposture.

Letters are being constantly received from former inmates; and these letters are confirmed in their statements by other unquestionable information. The emigrants speak most gratefully of the Institution and its supporters; many address Mr. Nash as "dear Father;" and express their determination, with God's assistance, to persevere in the right way, and to practise the lessons which they first learned from his lips.

The annual expenses of the Reformatory exceed £2500. The annual cost of each inmate is £15, and of his emigration £10—making a total of £25 per annum.

It has been estimated that each criminal, on each conviction, costs the public £63. Therefore, as a pure question of economy in our public expenditure, the Reformatory Institution is entitled to support.

We regret to learn that the Institution is in debt, and appeals to Christian sympathy and help—a call that will, we hope, be liberally responded to.

We may refer our readers to a volume, by the Rev. Samuel Martin, entitled "A Place of Repentance," for a full and interesting account of the origin and progress of the work of reformation so successfully carried out by Mr. Nash.

The claims of the Institution are tangible and satisfactory. They are based upon the unquestionable success which has hitherto attended its labours. Its supporters can point to its fruits in Australia, America, and England, to demonstrate that much good has already been accomplished—that the lawless and depraved have been won by kindly influences, and moralised and reformed by the Gospel, restored to society, and made useful in their day and generation.

Mr. Charles Nash is a native of Bristol, and is now about forty-two years of age. Some twenty years ago he came to London for the purpose of engaging in commercial pursuits. His attention was early directed to Ragged Schools, and the condition of our criminal population. He became a voluntary teacher at the Ragged School, Justin-street, at a similar institution in the Mint, and in various other parts of the metropolis. He was also for five years a teacher in the Castle-yard Sunday-school, in connection with Surrey Chapel. He next entered the British and Foreign Training School, Borough-road, under the able superintendence of Dr. Cornwall. His heart was still with the Ragged Schools; and, on leaving the Borough-road, he was engaged as teacher of the New Pye-street School, supported by Miss Howell. While here, in the very centre of a criminal population, he became deeply impressed with the necessity of making some effort for the reformation of the fallen. You might see him at nine o'clock in the morning with a train of miserable boys and young men whom he had gathered

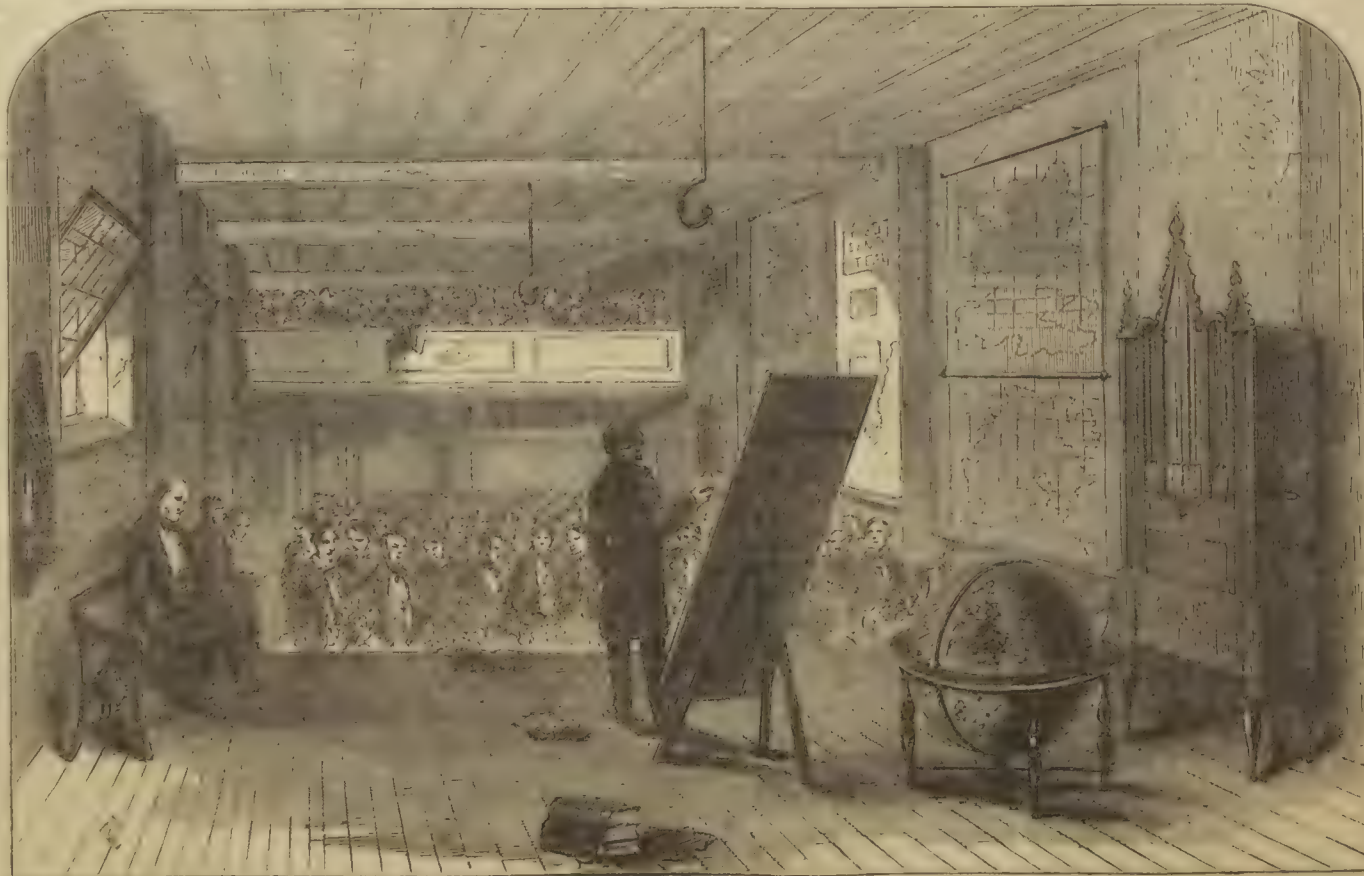
from various quarters on his way to school. He found that he must separate them entirely from their wicked companions, in order to accomplish any good. He accordingly rented a room, and commenced with two boys, who soon increased to six. Such was the commencement of the present institution in Smith-street.

**JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.**—The annual meeting of the Birmingham Reformatory Institution, established only twelve months ago, was held at the establishment at Saltley, on Tuesday, Lord Calthorpe presided; and was supported by Mr. Adderley, M.P.; Captain Stuart, Mr. C. Sturge, Mr. Morgan, and other influential persons of the neighbourhood. A committee of ladies was appointed to take measures for the erection of a girls' reformatory school. Several munificent donations have been made in favour of it, including one of £1000 and a subscription of £100 per annum from Mr. Jonah Mason, and donations of 100 guineas each from Miss Burdett Coutts and Mr. W. Chance.

In digging for a well in the coal mines near Prague, the workmen met with a bed of yellow amber, apparently of great extent. Pieces weighing from 2 lb. to 3 lb. have been extracted.



PROBATION-ROOM.



LECTURE-ROOM.—THE INMATES RECEIVING RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN THE GOSPEL HISTORY TAUGHT ACCORDING TO THE "GRADUATED SIMULTANEOUS SYSTEM."



PARIS FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

THE principal, and almost exclusive, topic of conversation in the drawing-rooms of Paris is the recent Reception at the Tuileries, which every one is agreed was much more characterised by its splendour than by its



gaiety and liveliness. Every lady was so much occupied with the long train attached to her dress, and to which all were unaccustomed, that little attention could be given to any thing else. The scene has been pretty freely talked of. The Empress wore a dress composed of one of



PARIS FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

times it is plain, or ornamented, with a few small flowers towards the lower end; and, in some instances, powdered with pearls, as may be seen in the accompanying head-dresses. The flowers are disposed either in bunches or garlands; the latter are, however, becoming displaced b



gold and silver, and coloured silk ribbons: they are placed far back on the head, and they fall down very low on the shoulders.

At the theatres many head-dresses of velvet are seen, having "torsades" of jet, coral, pearls, or diamonds. Long ends of lace, mixed with flowers, are much worn, and form a very becoming head-dress.



those magnificent tissues which were presented to her by the city of Lyons; it was cloth-of-gold, besprinkled with flowers of cherry-coloured velvet. The Princess Mathilde wore a cherry-coloured cloak, very deeply bordered with gold. Madame de Persigny wore a cloak, which is spoken of in Paris as having cost thirteen thousand francs. Several of these cloaks were made of a tissue; but the greater number were simply composed of tissues of which dresses might afterwards be made—the same quantity of stuff serving for both garments. This distinction in the nature of the materials was very remarkable, and made a very costly display. There are only two receptions of this kind to be held each year, and a lady cannot, with propriety, appear a second time in a cloak which has once caused a sensation.

The two dancing-masters most in vogue in Paris are MM. Laborde and Cellarius; and they are considered to be the best instructors for teaching the most graceful manner of wearing the Court mantle. The material most worn for balls on account of the increasing rage for volants, is taffetas. The petticoats are extremely full, and it would be impossible to augment their amplitude, unless hoops such as were worn in the time of Louis XV., should be introduced. This taste is the more difficult to account for, considering that the apartments of our houses of the present day are not particularly spacious; and that it is customary to assemble a considerable number of persons at evening parties and balls.

Head-dresses in gold and silver, recently so much in vogue, are becoming somewhat less fashionable; flowers are increasing in favour, as also feathers: for the Court balls, they are placed very low at the back of the head, in such a manner that the ends fall down on the neck and even on the shoulders. The materials for the dresses of ladies who do not dance, are the same as previously worn. Cloth of gold and silver is much worn, with patterns either of a single colour on the ground, or bunches of flowers of varied colours. Very charming silk gauzes are made, interwoven with garlands of flowers, of the same colour, the fibres of the leaves and the leaves of the flowers being in silver; this material, in white, makes delightful dresses for young ladies: they have three volants, bordered, and the body has also a special pattern for itself. A novel shape for dresses is named a "godet," and which recalls the form of the *tuniques*, which were formerly in fashion.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Dress of taffetas, with embroidery for the volants; the mantle, or wrapper, worn on quitting the ball-room for the carriage, in white



CASKET PRESENTED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO EARL GRANVILLE.

CASKET PRESENTED TO EARL GRANVILLE BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

AMONGST the numerous specimens of ornamental art exhibited at Marlborough-house, the Casket presented by the French Government to Earl Granville, in acknowledgment of his eminent services as one of the Commissioners of the Great Exhibition of 1851, is one of the most remarkable, both for the magnificent character of the object itself and the circumstances under which it reached this country. It is of large dimensions, and is composed of ebony, richly decorated with or moulu, and inlaid with painted tablets of Sèvres china, representing subjects in the history of the great painter, Rubens. The shape of the casket is very elegant.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

THE very interesting collection of Nimroud Antiquities in the British Museum has lately received two accessions of a peculiar character—a bronze Patena, and two Assyrian Bowls, which we have engraved both were procured by Mr. Layard, at Nimroud. These Bowls have been selected as most characteristic of the style of art. They have been made by being punched or beaten up from their outside, so as to produce the figures in relief within. That to the left exhibits a lion-hunt. The one to the right, a lion, sphinxes, and other animals. The Bowl in the centre, which is much flatter, has winged griffins, human figures, and other ornaments; and resembles, in general style Egyptian works of late age, and certain silver vases found in Italy.

LUNLEY V. GYE.—This action, which has been pending for some time, is now drawing towards a conclusion. It will be remembered that, in the present term, the Court of Queen's Bench granted a rule for a new commission, directed to the Royal Court of Berlin, to examine Middle Wagner and others, at the instance of the defendant. The condition precedent of the new commission was the payment of the costs of the former, which terminated in consequence of the parties refusing to give evidence. The rule for the new commission was to have been drawn up within four days, but it was not done; and the result is, that the parties will proceed to trial without the evidence by a commission. Notice of trial has been given by Messrs. Lewis and Lewis for the sittings after term at Guildhall, and the cause is expected to be tried about the 20th of February, before a special jury.



BRONZE BOWL, FROM NIMROUD.



BRONZE PATENA, FROM NIMROUD.



BRONZE BOWL, FROM NIMROUD.



## LITERATURE.

## THE POETICAL WORKS OF DRYDEN.

The "revival of poetry" manifests itself at present in various ways. Bookseller vies with bookseller; not, we must say, in the publication of new poetry, or new poetry, worthy of the name, is rare; but in the republication of standard works, stamped with the approbation of five or six generations. We have not only selections from the writings of all the standard poets, but we have editions of more or less elegance and completeness, of particular favourites—such as Gray, Goldsmith, Pope, and the writers of the last generation—the copyright of whose works has expired. In the growing demand for cheap literature, the magnates of the publishing business naturally love to speculate on the works of the classic writers, who, being in their graves, cannot make any claim upon them for a share of profits. Among the multitude of republications of this kind, which have been lately announced "the annotated edition of the English Poets, edited by Robert Bell," is the most important. This series promises to be a valuable acquisition to our literature. The editor is admirably qualified for his task. He writes like a scholar and a gentleman, like a poet, and like a man of the world. He has a keen spirit of appreciation, and knows, as well as any living writer, that art is difficult, and ordinary criticism easy: but that the true and exalted critic is second only to the poet or "maker." If we search the long and illustrious roll of British writers, we shall find that critics of the highest grade have but seldom appeared in the literary republic: and that, when they did appear, they were always men who had won their own golden spurs in the glorious lists of literature before they took it upon themselves to act as arbiters on the merits of others, or umpires of the public decision. Mr. Bell has commenced his labours with the "Life and Works of Dryden." The reader may not unreasonably ask—were there no poets before "glorious John," that he should thus be thrust into the place of honour? Mr. Bell, in explaining his own design, supplies an answer to the question:—

An introductory volume (he says) will present a succinct account of English poetry from the earliest times down to a period which will connect it with the series of the poets, through whose lives the history of our poetical literature will be continued to the present time. Occasional volumes will be introduced, in which specimens, with connecting notices and commentaries, will be given of those poets whose works are not of sufficient interest to be reproduced entire. The important materials gathered from previously unexplored sources by the researches of the last quarter of a century will be embodied wherever they may be available in the general design; and, by these means, it is hoped that the collection will be more complete than any that has been hitherto attempted, and that it will be rendered additionally acceptable as comprising in its course a continuous history of English poetry.

By the arrangements that will be adopted, the works of the principal poets may be purchased separately and independently of the rest. The occasional volumes—containing, according to circumstances, poetry of a particular class or period; collections illustrative of customs, manners, and historical events; or specimens, with critical annotations, of the minor poets—will also be complete in themselves.

As the works of each poet, when completed, will be independent of the rest, although ultimately falling into their places in the series, they will be issued irrespective of chronological sequence. This arrangement will present a greater choice and variety in the selection, from month to month, of poets of different styles and periods, and at the same time enable the editor to take advantage of all new sources of information that may be opened to him in the progress of publication.

Mr. Bell further states that the edition now proposed will be distinguished from all preceding editions in many important respects. It will include the works of several poets entirely omitted from previous collections, especially those stores of lyrical and ballad poetry in which our literature is richer than that of any other country; and which, independently of their poetical claims, are peculiarly interesting as illustrations of historical events and national customs.

There is, therefore, no other reason for commencing the series with Dryden than the good-will and pleasure of Mr. Bell. It suited his taste or his convenience; and, with a plan so unobjectionable and so certain to be made chronologically and historically correct in the sequel, the reason is sufficient. Perhaps, an additional reason might be found in the fact that an edition of Dryden has long been wanted, and that his works are, in reality, scarcer than those of any other English poet of equal note. To have begun with Gower and Chaucer might have soared a host of readers, who, not being members of the Society of Antiquaries, have neither relish for nor comprehension of the vernacular language in its uncouth orthography of four hundred years ago. To have come further down the stream of Time, and to have commenced with Spenser, would have been to risk the popularity of the venture, for Spenser, though deserving of all respect and honour, is not, and never can be, a general favourite; and, to have come nearer still to the age when English literature began to assume its present shape and spirit, and to have issued the poems of Shakespeare and Milton, would have been to run the risk of overstocking the market with works with which every reader is familiar. But to Dryden no such literary or trade objections applied. He is an author known more to the present generation by his great reputation, than by his works. His unrivalled ode to St. Cecilia, and his translation of "Virgil," are, perhaps, the only compositions with which the bulk of the reading public can be said to be acquainted; and even that limited amount of knowledge is derived from school lessons, rather than from actual study and enjoyment at a later period of life. His plays are dead, beyond all possibility of revival—his occasional writings have passed out of remembrance; but his satirical and other poems will never die, unless the English language precede them in the grave. Mr. Bell's cheap and elegant edition will introduce this patriarch of literature to a larger class of readers, while his judicious and eloquent life of the poet will make them familiar with the characteristics of an age of which no Englishman is ever tired of reading—the age immediately preceding that of Pope and Addison; and forming, in conjunction with it, by far the most brilliant and remarkable period in the annals of English literature.

But though Dryden has to some extent fallen into neglect of late years, he has never lacked enthusiastic admirers. The late Lord Holland is said to have carried his reverence for him so far, as never to use a word, either in speaking or writing, that was not to be found in the pages of his favourite. All the great masters of the English tongue, whether they have written in prose or verse, have been under obligations to him. He was so terse and vigorous, so thoroughly English, so determined to make the right words fall in the right places, that no one who wishes to learn the secret of a good style can peruse his poems without advantage. That he was a great poet we cannot take it upon ourselves to assert. He lacked imagination, though he exhibited fancy; he was deficient in tenderness and grace, but he possessed fire and vigour; and our language and literature owe him a debt of gratitude which it would be unjust either to deny or to depreciate. Whatever he felt he felt strongly; and whenever it suited his purpose to say what he felt, the strength and the earnestness of his expression showed him to be both a master of thoughts and of language. Everything which he wrote was to the purpose, and, to use the words of one of his contemporaries, was "full of mighty sense."

Mr. Bell has been fortunate enough to obtain some original letters of Dryden, which throw new light upon his life. The greatest, if not the only, reproach upon his character was that he changed his religion for a pension. Mr. Bell proves for the first time that the stigma was undeserved. We commend the volume in this as well as in every other respect to the attention of those who desire to have not only a correct edition of the work, but a correct biography of a great writer.

THE PARABLES OF FREDERICK ADOLPHUS KRUMMACHER. Translated from the Seventh German Edition. With Forty Illustrations, drawn by J. R. Clayton; engraved by the Brothers Dalziel. Nathaniel Cooke.

The great charm and the great power of simplicity are not, as some imagine, a merely negative result; they come from more than the absence of faults, including even the absence of the most displeasing of faults—affectation. Yet such an immunity would itself be of immense importance, and of the highest practical value. But it is not sufficiently remembered that simplicity insures unity of effect. All the conventional parade of writing, its jewels, whether genuine or spurious, cannot furnish an equivalent for the real disfigurement entailed by them, where they happen to distract or to divide attention from the one principal truth or the principal impression, which it may be the end of any work of art (in each particular portion respectively), to bring home.

In these German Parables we find a union of the two advantages, which are distinct from each other, and which are not always certain to result simultaneously from even the merit of simplicity. There is freedom from pretension, from bombast, and indeed from the risk or possibility of these or any other vices of literary composition. But as the work has good sense, has good feeling, has many truths to tell, many old, homely, and useful lessons to inculcate in new, and often very ingratiating lights,—in fine as the book has an effect to produce, the simplicity with which the author writes, possesses a positive additional value, giving both power and charm, where nothing else could give them. We need but add, on this head, that the translation does justice to the original.

It was at Duisburg, and in the year 1805, that Krummacher's "Parables" first appeared. For the last fifty years their success has been great, and it has been progressive. Fifty years! a long time to maintain popularity—a prodigious time during which to continue to rise in it. After such a test, it will be conceived that the author holds a place among the standard luminaries of German literature. He is still living. This English version is from the seventh German edition (six large editions having been sold); and it contains a few prefatory remarks from Krummacher himself, in lieu of the longer, and perhaps needlessly apologetic, or explanatory, introduction, which had stood at the beginning of the book in the German. It closes with these words:—

To what purpose, indeed, is a long preface on the construction of parables, when they themselves stand marshalled in array? It were better to conclude with an axiom from the Golden A B C of dear Claudius [surely this ought to be Claudian]:—

The Parables are fair and good;  
But then they must be understood.

Herder may be said, in a sense, to have preceded Krummacher in this branch of literature; but it is as Hesiod precedes Homer. Krummacher has made "parables" his own throughout Germany, where his name is so completely identified with them, and where they are so popular, that there is not a class-book in which several of them have not been incorporated.

The following is the parable of Polycarp; it is one of the longest in the collection, where everything is so pregnant and condensed:—

## POLYCARP: OR, THE KINGDOM OF TRUTH.

The excellent Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, was obliged to quit the city in consequence of the increasing persecutions; he went with his faithful disciple Crescens to the region in the vicinity of Smyrna.

And in the cool of the evening the Bishop was walking under the shade of the magnificent trees which stood in front of his rural abode. Here he found Crescens sitting under an oak-tree, leaning his head on his hand and weeping. Then the old man said, "My son, why weepest thou?" Crescens lifted up his head and said, "Shall I not mourn and weep, when I think of the kingdom of truth on earth? Tempests and storms are gathering round, and will destroy it in its beginning. Many of its adherents have become apostates, and have denied and abused the truth, proving that unworthy men may confess it with their lips, though their heart is far from it. This fills my soul with sorrow, and my eyes with tears." Thus replied Crescens.

Then Polycarp smiled, and answered, "My dear son, the kingdom of Divine truth is like unto a tree that a countryman reared in his garden. He set the seed secretly and quietly in the ground, and left it; the seed put forth leaves, and the young tree grew up among weeds and thorns. Soon the tree reared itself above them, and the weeds died, because the shadow of the branches overcame them. The tree grew, and the winds blew on it and shook it; but its roots clung firmer and firmer to the ground, taking hold of the rocks downwards, and its branches reached unto heaven. Thus the tempest served to increase the firmness and strength of the tree. When it grew up higher, and its shadow spread further, then the thorns and the weeds grew again round the tree; but it heeded them not in its loftiness: there it stood in calm, peaceful grandeur—a tree of God." Thus said the excellent Bishop; then stretching out his hand to his disciple, he continued smiling: "When thou art lifting up thy eyes to the summit of the tree, wilt thou regard the weeds that cling about its roots? Trust in Him who planted it."

Then Crescens arose, and his heart was gladdened; for the venerable father walked by his side. Bent was he with years; but his spirit and his countenance were as those of a youth.

One more sample:—

## THE TEARS.

On a moonlight night Hillel was walking with his disciple Sadi in the garden of the Mount of Olives.

Then Sadi said, "Behold yonder man in the rays of the moon; what is he doing?"

Hillel said, "It is Zadok; he sits by the grave of his son, and weeps."

"Can Zadok not moderate his grief?" asked the youth. "Men call him the wise and the just."

Hillel said, "Is that a reason why he should not feel pain?"

"But," asked Sadi, "what advantage has the wise man over the foolish one?"

Then the master answered: "Behold, the bitter tear of his eye sinks to the ground; but his countenance is raised to heaven."

We may safely say that these are very poor specimens of the merits of the Parables of Krummacher. But we have quoted a comparatively long fable to show how short those must be which are shorter in comparison; and then a brief and serious instance, that it may be understood how light and easy the general reading must be which is less exacting than that.

It is right, however, to signalise, before we close our brief notice, some of the really superior parables. "The Apple," "The Magnetic Needle," "The Painter and his Master," "The Lesson," and "The Imbecile Child," are full of beauties, though the moral of the last is not logical. The "Sacred Pictures" is truly sublime.

If such be the merits of this work, we have only to add that it is so superbly printed and bound, that it is, in every sense, his "money's worth" to the purchaser.

## WALTER EVELYN; OR, THE LONG MINORITY. In 3 volumes. Bentley.

A broken kaleidoscope, a tangle of bright threads, flowers tossed into a heap, or the Babel of a diplomatic reception, are similitudes which crowd upon the mind after a perusal of this novel. With a thorough knowledge of life, derived from correct and keen observation of it, considerable literary power, much wisdom, occasional eloquence, and not a little humour, the author of "Walter Evelyn" only requires the rarest and highest literary qualification, patience, to be able to paint a more truthful and amusing picture of modern high life than any author we can at present name. Thoroughly intimate with the manners and characters he portrays, he has succeeded in presenting a *dramatis personæ* in "Walter Evelyn" which only require to have been well guided through the plot, to have made it a novel of the highest class. His puppets are admirably costumed, they act with remarkable ease and naturalness; but they are tossed about hither and thither with so much confusion, their strings are pulled with so little regard to coherence, that the interest of the reader is wound up and let down with provoking unceremoniousness. He is, however, always amused, and sometimes instructed.

Walter Evelyn is the grandson of a septuagenarian peer, who had a "chirping voice, cheerful and kindly, such as a good-natured sparrow might rejoice in, if he could tell a fat story," and who, "though not very wise, or very generous, or very good in any way (being on the whole as selfish, heartless, and improper an elderly gentleman as lived in the neighbourhood), was not a whit worse, or more heartless, or more selfish, than some other who put a grave face upon matters, and do their naughty things with not half so much good-humour and cheerfulness." Walter Evelyn's father is a sporting, gambling, good-hearted, thrifless, unprincipled nobleman, who began life as a spendthrift and pigeon, and ended it as a systematic dupe of younger spendthrifts and pigeons. Walter Evelyn's uncle is a stately placeman of the old implacable school, who "had none of the *preux chevaliers* which sometimes makes leaders of adverse parties in public very good friends in private life. He used more solid hard words than any member of the House; his weapon of offence was not a foil, glittering while it wounds, but a bludgeon. No wit, no light play of fancy, no brilliant essay ever came from that heavy, stolid mind." Walter Evelyn's guardian, the Earl of Winton, is an elderly debauchee, in the diplomatic service, who ruins everybody, except himself, by his intense selfishness; who gets a character

for being a profound musician by hiring composers to write music to be published as his own; who keeps an opera-dancer, and neglects his domestic and public duties, and who is preserved from the consequences of his innate silliness by his coronet and extraordinary good fortune.

The history of a long minority passed under such auspices is necessarily eventful. At eight years old the little heir is the messenger between his father in the Queen's Bench and his mother in lodgings in the "rules."

It was a touching thing to see the wives, and mothers, and sisters of these "gay dogs" come in to see them. Elegant and lovely women, upon whose cheeks the very winds of heaven had been never before suffered to blow too rudely—who had ridden in coroneted carriages till they had almost forgotten how to walk—used to come tripping down on their errand of love, through rain and rough weather, and often many a good mile on foot, to bring but one extra guinea to those thankless prodigals, or save ever so little from the wreck at home. I knew one dear lady, one of the best and brightest who ever gladdened the home of a worthless husband—she afterwards wore the coronet of an Irish marchioness; but then she used to bring the Honourable Phelim (her husband) little veal patties of her own making, thinking (bless her innocence!) that he had no dinner. Turning into their room, too, one day, I saw her stealthily mending his stockings. I know she kept no servant; and she lived in a quiet, obscure street in Lambeth, full of journeyman cabinet-makers and musicians, where she had a little lodging at seven or eight shillings a week: while the Honourable Phelim had never had so much money in his life as he was then making (to lose it again) by a run of luck at the accursed table.

After Harrow, the hero becomes, for a time, his uncle the Minister's private secretary. Here is an account of the beleaguering army that lays constant siege to Downing-street:—

Thus, independently of all sorts of private claims, hard to be refused though often made on behalf of unqualified people enough, one man would write to ask for a pension, because his great-grandfather's second cousin, he believed, had been coachman to Queen Anne; but, as he was not sure about it, he enclosed his certificate of baptism, with the marriage-papers of his father and grandfather, hoping that they might, at least, satisfy "Her Majesty's Government in Parliament assembled" (such words as these were always well spelt, because copied from the newspapers), and "provoke him a pension, tho' never so small."

The letters, however, were the lightest part of my duties, for I was obliged to receive all kinds of people who thought proper to make personal application on subjects equally extraordinary. I remember one foreign Jew who, after looking round the room in a mysterious manner to ascertain that we were alone, made an impudent attempt to bribe me to get him a contract for supplying the Navy with lucifer matches; and another who came all the way from the interior of Russia, with a dirty money bag in his bosom, to endeavour to obtain the removal of the obstructions at the mouth of the Danube by the talismanic influence of its contents. The Government were thought able to do anything, from obtaining a ukase from the monarch of the Tartars to building a bridge from London to New York. I noticed, too, that most foreigners expected to obtain their object by some direct or indirect species of bribery, and my wonder soon ceased at my uncle's dislike to presents. This kind of visitors seemed to have no idea of political honesty at all. They would take out their pocket books and finger the contents whilst talking to you, and looked upon your indignation only as a hint that the bribe was not large enough, or that you wanted gold instead of bank-notes, to escape detection.

The ladies, too! What wonderful schemes they did hit upon, to be sure! One, a piquante little woman, of some six-and-twenty summers, came first to my uncle's house on pretence of buying cast-off clothes from his valet, and then bribed that officer to be shown up to his master. This being accomplished, and my Lord, who was busy in arranging his speech on the Brobdingnag question, to be delivered that night, having left me to see what she wanted, she opened proceedings by offering me, what she called a very beautiful cabinet picture, to get her husband made a Queen's messenger, or—anything else. In vain I told her I had no power or means of doing anything; there was no getting rid of her. For two mortal hours she tried the whole battery of her charms upon me; she rallied me, piqued me, flattered me (most impudently), laughed at me; and at last, finding every thing useless (though, indeed, I would have made her husband Lord Chancellor to get her to go away), she threw herself in a paroxysm of tears at my feet, and repeated a whole poem of prayers to me to do what was simply impossible.

It preyed upon my health at last. I grew afraid to shake hands with people lest they should attempt to leave a pocket-book with me.

Observation, nicely-discriminated character, tenderness, and healthy sentiment abound in "Walter Evelyn," sufficiently to enrich a half a dozen better-constructed novels. The author seems to have written under a sense of extreme pressure; as if he were performing a literary match against time. Yet, despite several minor mistakes into which his hurry plunges him, he communicates a strong impulse to the reader, who goes on to the end puzzling out the plot, and devouring the irrelevantencies in breathless haste. Strangely enough, a subordinate character in "Walter Evelyn" lays down the soundest laws for novel-writing: one of which is, "do not hurry your book; a good novel cannot be written quickly; you should be always thinking about it, and ripening the subjects in your mind."

THE POSITIVE PHILOSOPHY OF AUGUSTE COMTE. Freely translated and condensed, by HARRIET MARTINEAU. Two vols. Chapman.

M. Comte, like M. Fourier—some of whose works have been noticed in our Journal—is the author of a new system, or science of society; and, like him, was a disciple of St. Simon, if we may not rather say that the opinions of all three, and many other social reformers in France were the natural growth of the extraordinary political circumstances of that country. He was born in 1797; educated, therefore, chiefly during the supremacy of Bonaparte, and before it had come to an end, was impressed with an idea that a scientific as well as a social reform was needed. After St. Simonism fell into disrepute, and after M. Comte had ceased to be one of St. Simon's most active disciples, he became a teacher of mathematics and a professor at the celebrated Polytechnic School. There, however, he fell into disputes with most of his brother professors, and in the end was dismissed; having no other resources than those of an unpensioned, unplaced philosopher, which, in France, are even more scanty than in England. He has passed a very active literary life; teaching and lecturing with great enthusiasm, and almost without intermission, in order to make his opinions known. From continued active exertions of this kind, his works—which were principally delivered as lectures—are more voluminous than terse and correct. He has wanted time and leisure to prune and polish them; and their enormous mass would almost deter any but the hardest students from reading them, and much more from the task of translating them. His collected works amount to twelve thick volumes; and his "Positive Philosophy," the work now condensed into two volumes of 485 and 500 pages, by Miss Martineau, fills six volumes, each of which contains, on the average, upwards of 800 pages. Some of his speculations, like those of Fourier—and from the same cause, a yearning after social improvement—have been very favourably received, though by men of a very different station in society and of a very different mental calibre from those who believed in Fourier. Men of high mark and great literary repute have announced Comte to the world as the greatest living thinker. Miss Martineau shares their opinions. She believes a knowledge of Comte's writings to be needed in England, and hence she has undertaken and has well performed the arduous task of studying them and of condensing—so that nothing of importance is omitted—his six large volumes into two volumes, half as large, of very readable English. Her reputation, and her known mastery of style, make it unnecessary further to eulogise her performance; as a piece of philosophic writing it is worthy of all praise. But her late connection with mesmerism has weakened our confidence in the soundness of her judgment; and the more M. Comte's philosophy is exalted by her and others, the more do we feel ourselves called on, before giving it currency, to subject it to a rigid examination.

The present work, the original of which was published in Paris between 1830 and 1842, contains his whole system, and consists of two parts, to each of which a volume is appropriated. In the first, his plan of classifying all the sciences according to their relations to one another, beginning with those which are supposed to be the most simple and most general, is explained; Mathematics, Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry, &c., are treated of; and the history of the progress of each science is sketched in a very superior way. The whole of this volume relates to abstract and abstruse subjects, which can only be treated in an abstruse manner. Some of his principles of classification are worthy of being followed; but only those who are ignorant of what has been done by many eminent men in different parts of Europe, can adopt the opinion that it was left for M. Comte to assert the eternally, or to show practically, that mental science and the science of organised beings must be studied in precisely the same manner—by observing and comparing facts, and by mounting experiments, and watching the results—as is entailed in investigating unorganised and material bodies. In Miss Martineau's notes, M. Comte appears as an eloquent, but not always a correct, expounder of his own system; and her too ready adoption of his principles, and her too ready march too high, when he is carried with the greatest men of the world for suggesting a doubtful and slight improvement in the classification of knowledge.



The second volume is entirely occupied with M. Comte's science of society, according to the principles of the positive philosophy, or a new science called "Sociology." He shows the shortcomings of several other systems; he justly appreciates the perversion of Smith's "Wealth of Nations" into modern political economy; and is not wrong in ascribing to the principles of Smith's work, properly carried out, an antagonism to existing governments. He traces with considerable sagacity the natural progress of humanity, from barbarism to civilisation, but whenever he attempts to expound what is to supply the place of the science of wealth, and of existing social regulations, we are more frequently reminded of Fourier's rambling, confused, unintelligible explanations, than of the neat, clear logic of M. J. B. Say, of the unmistakable precision of M. Bastiat, or the massive writing of Proudhon. But that M. Comte borrows a phrase from Mr. Mill, to stigmatise pedantry, we should suppose that he meant to hand over Government to the learned, to men of literature and science. His discursive remarks on the influence of science, of ideas, and of the domestic relations, would lead us to infer that he meant only to place society, as it is now actually placed, under the dominion of public opinion. But M. Comte is an opponent of unlimited private opinion, which alone can build up free and sound public opinion: particularly he is an opponent of that free public judgment in matters of religion which prevails in Protestant countries; and he would have a Government that should attempt to remedy all the evils of society, and should provide it with a uniform faith. His system is rather the union of de-potism with an inflexible Church, than freedom of political and religious opinions; such as exists in England and the United States. From the influence of M. Comte's system, now displayed in engaging language—though it has found favour with many clever men amongst us, and recommends itself to all those who dread democracy more than despots, and have more reverence for the past, than hope in the future—we pray that our people may be saved.

BALDER. Part the First. By the Author of "The Roman." Smith, Elder, and Co.

The failure of a man of genius, when it occurs, is more complete, as well as much more conspicuous in its manner, and much more painful in its effects, than the failure of a person who was merely inadequate to the undertaking which we assume either to attempt. More painful, we say; and this not always to him alone who has failed, or to his personal friends. We should, indeed, be sorry and ashamed if the mortifications, misadventures, and checks of a bright and aspiring intelligence, full of unquenchable emanations of some diviner fire, afforded pabulum of malicious exultation to mediocrity, and produced no result but that. Few things are more easily travestied, burlesqued, or lampooned, than what contain some noble quality. Ridicule lives on its opposite; and the talents of the two competing adapters being supposed equal—we would back the man who took the "Paradise Lost" for the subject of a pantomime, against the man who selected Mr. Montgomery's "Satan" for the same purpose.

We observe that a morning contemporary has made great fun of "Balder." If the critic has never yet thought of the experiment, we assure him that he will be quite surprised at the probable results which he will realise, by merely placing before him one of the longer poems which have already won a standard place in public estimation, and bringing to an analysis of it, or even to a cursory survey of its parts, the same sportive, reckless animal spirits, and the same feeling, imp-like nimbleness of flippant sarcasm, which he has levelled so adroitly against passages of this new effusion. Of course, however successful the mock-criticism might be, its author would not wish to publish it now as an exposition of his serious opinions or impressions concerning some work of established repute. But, had the experiment been made immediately after the first appearance of such a work, and before the world had delivered its verdict, would he then have scrupled to record his commentary? Such things have been done—generally with more effect upon the poet himself, and upon his future productions, than upon the particular production which may have already appeared. It happened thus to Byron; neither depressing his early fugitive pieces below the tide-mark of fame (for they had never reached it), nor much exalting, nor, indeed, much altering, the value in which they were held; for they had no great merit; and were not then, and have not since been, supposed extraordinary in any sense. The result was slight, so far as concerned those poems; but there was a very important result so far as concerned the poet. A similar welcome attended Keats. To Keats this appears to have garnered up some consequence; but it was of no consequence at all to "Ennion," except to make many persons express their admiration with indignant fervour who would have expressed it calmly when occasion arose, or never have felt it necessary to express it at all.

Criticism is powerful; but, like all powerful agents, it has its duties, which are not disregarded with impunity. Unjust judgments impair the veneration which "hedges in" the Bench; and rash or malignant criticism recoils upon the authority of the "censores morum et artium" as a body, and in their entire profession, calling, and destiny. For that authority is no chartered right or statutable privilege, but purely moral; and, like all influences laboriously acquired "by many acts," is easily shaken "by one." There is no optional function in the office of the herald when once he comes forward to characterise the performances of any new competitor in the great *champ clos* of literature. It is a sacred obligation of honour and trust that he should give a fair description, or none; and a full description, where it must be unfair if not full. The reader may easily and rationally conceive that in a long poem, an ingenious mind can generally discover ample materials for ridiculous travesty, by mere selection, or, if that fails, by skillful juxtaposition. And it is, perhaps, allowable enough to make merry thus with the amusing phases of an anxious and protracted labour, provided justice be done; at the same time, to the real merits and real beauties it may possess. But, we have said enough on this head, and more particularly with reference to the poem of "Balder."

We honestly confess that we have seldom looked into an effusion which would lend itself more easily or more liberally to the purposes of any merely depreciatory, or rather derisive, criticism. We are not only confident that the author's most ardent friends would in candour admit this much, and that they must, at all events, perceive in their own minds the full truth of our remark; but we are sure that the author himself cannot help feeling it. We must also add that we are greatly mistaken if the writer be not just the kind of genius to whom a little castigation will do no harm; and were we not anxious to record our recognition of those poet powers which he truly possesses, but of which he avails himself with the most egregious want of judgment and of skill, we certainly could divert our readers far more than we at all hope to do by our present observations. The author of "Balder" has already, however, seen a portion of his extravagances rather pungerly exposed in other quarters, without any acknowledgment whatever of his claims to compensatory treatment. Partly for that reason, and partly for the considerations just mentioned, we abstain from sinking a new shaft into the rich mine of ridicule and fun in which he almost seems to challenge the lovers of sarcasm "to come and find." If, indeed, he ever again prove so unfaithful to his own talents and inspiration as to publish another work with the patent, salient blemishes of "Balder," we shall be pained of him. "Part the Second" is to come: we shall see whether this be a threat, or a promise.

In the first place, then, "Balder" is a poem which belongs to no recognised division of poetry. It is not an epic, it is not a drama, it is not a collection of smaller pieces,—each perfect as to its kind, it is not a rhapsody of description, narrative, allusion, and reflection, moving with intelligible plan, in harmonious orbit, with regularity of measure, and a certain self-consistent unity of character and spirit, like the "Childe Harold," to which (twice) the deplorable differences in the very nature of the design, as well as in style and entire execution, it is so strikingly and immensely inferior in poetical afflatus, that we could easily select many lines from what are considered the worst passages of "The Pilgrimage" for which we should in vain seek any parallel throughout this new poem. Not belonging to any class of poetry, which either the arbitrary rules of convention, or a well-regulated view of what is intrinsically orderly and consonant with "the harmony of the spheres," can give us for the array and marshalling of the various kinds of song, "Balder," refusing, we say, all recognised classification, must be accounted and accepted as a "medley." We regret to add that it is a chaotic medley. Of its plan, its march, it is utterly impossible to give any clear statement whatever. Such being its general character, we are reduced for an estimate of its merits, to examine particular passages, and even individual lines. Now, it is not to be denied that it contains many lines which are turgid, absurd, forced, wild, and often (to make a clean breast of it) exceedingly disgusting. There are some, again, of which it is labour thrown away, to try to make any meaning or any sense at all. This will be found to be the fact by every attentive and conscientious reader; and this is not all, for there are lines, which are worse for the meaning they have than they would be if they had none. We allude to some bursts of mingled bathos and profanity, of which one part may be described as consisting of words with-

out significance, and the other of words which ought so to speak, to cry to the hills to cover them.

Yet, with all these special faults, and with a certain pervading arrogance, more resembling insanity than a "fine frenzy," with all these abatement, we are forced, in common justice and fairness, to acknowledge that there are also in this strange effusion passages of rare and exquisite beauty of idea, couched in most felicitous and powerful verses.

"Balder" never will be popular: that is utterly hopeless; it is out of the question. And, while it never will be popular, its defects, or rather its positive blemishes, are so numerous and so flagrant, that it will never have its right place; or, more correctly, the place which a poem by a man so gifted ought to achieve—even in the estimation of the discriminating few.

We counsel the author earnestly to chastise his own wayward and over-vaulting spirit; to select some literary design, full of human interest, however sublime; and to condescend to be popular. Even Dante condescended to charm the earth, and "to witch the world with noble" poetry.

## MUSIC.

AN addition has just been made to the numerous societies established within these few years, for the purpose of giving musical performances on a great scale; an improvement on the practice which formerly prevailed of such performances being given by individual professors on their own account, and for their own benefit. This new association calls itself the "London Orchestra." It appears to have been set on foot in opposition to, or in competition with, a society of precisely the same description which was formed two seasons ago, the Orchestral Union. Each of them consists of a body of instrumentalists, under an able conductor—Mr. Alfred Mellon being at the head of the one, and Mr. Frank Mori at the head of the other. Each society proposes not only to give concerts on its own account, but to furnish its services to parties who give great concert: either in London or in the provinces. Both societies may probably do a great deal of good; and the rivalry which must exist between them is calculated to stimulate their exertions. The London Orchestra gave its first concert at the Hanover-square Rooms on Thursday (last week). The band appeared to be about forty strong, and included many eminent performers, among whom were Thirlwall, Lovell, Phillips, Baumann, Lazarus, Barret, Prospère, Rowland, and Chipp. The mention of these names reminds us that the Orchestral Union consists entirely of "native talent," while no such exclusive principle has been adopted by the London Orchestra. The concert was exceedingly good. Its great features were Mendelssohn's Symphony in A minor, called the "Scottish Symphony," and the same composer's pianoforte concerto in D minor, in which the principal part was sustained by Miss Arabella Goddard. There was also a trio for the pianoforte, violin, and violoncello, composed by Mr. Ferdinand Prager, and played by himself, M. Sainston, and Mr. Lovell Phillips—a very pleasing composition, admirably executed. Some vocal pieces, of a superior order, were performed by Madame Amedei, Signor and Madame F. Laolache, Mr. and Mrs. Weiss, and Mr. Land.

THE HARMONIC UNION gave a performance of "Elijah" on Monday evening, at Exeter-hall. Mr. Benedict having returned from Germany (after having superintended the triumphant production at Munich of his opera of the "Crusaders"), resumed his place as conductor. Much interest was excited by the appearance of Signor Belletti, who on this occasion made his first essay in sacred music, and in the English language. He acquitted himself, on the whole, in a manner not unworthy of his high reputation; though he certainly did one thing which was not worthy of it. In place of sustaining the principal character in this sublime musical drama, he sang only a part of the music belonging to it, leaving the remainder—including some of the finest and most dramatic passages—to be sung by another person, Mr. Lullier. This strange and unprecedented proceeding so much surprised us that we inquired into the matter, and were informed that Signor Belletti had refused to sing the whole part, and had persisted in his refusal, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the committee. Why he should have done such a thing passes our comprehension. It was injurious to himself, as well as fatal to the dramatic character of the oratorio. His excessively foreign accent and pronunciation, which seemed to betray ignorance of the meaning of the words he was attempting to speak, also formed a great drawback on the effect of his performance; and though the beauty of his voice and the high finish of his execution were often strikingly displayed, yet his performance, as a whole, is not at present (whatever it may become hereafter) comparable to that of Mr. Weiss, who sustains the character of the Prophet with a dignity and earnestness of feeling which no one in this country has ever surpassed. The other solo parts were sung by Miss Siabach, Miss Dolby, Mrs. Lockey, and Mr. Lockey, who acquitted themselves with their usual ability. Miss Siabach is entitled to special notice, on account of the rapid progress she is making—a progress evidently owing to close and industrious application to her art. On this occasion she manifested not only much intelligence and feeling, but a very considerable degree of vocal power. The choruses were, without exception, performed in a manner which did great honour to the singers, and to their able conductor, Mr. Benedict. We are convinced that their performance was so good because there were not too many of them. They were sufficiently strong for every purpose of effect, without being so many as to be unwieldy and unmanageable. We have never heard the sublime choruses of the "Elijah" given with greater power, combined with delicacy and precision.

The performance of the "Creation," at St. Martin's Hall, under the direction of Mr. Hullah, which we noticed last week as having been so excellent and successful, was repeated on Wednesday evening.

THE WEDNESDAY EVENING CONCERT of this week calls for small notice. It contained a little that was good, much that was bad, and still more that was indifferent. The good was Benedict's fine Pianoforte Concerto in C, extremely well executed by Miss Griver, a young pianist of talent, and Beethoven's noble Overture to "Egmont;" to which, however, the orchestra did not do justice. Among the bad there were Flotow's Overture to "Stradella"—a poor imitation of the weak modern Italian style; an interminable duet on the violin and violoncello, played by Messrs Collins—a mere piece of fiddling, full of unmeaning difficulties; and the insipid vocal quartet, "Mild as the moonbeams," interpolated by the elder Brahms into the opera of "Artaxerxes," and very popular with the gods of Drury forty years ago, but far behind the taste of the most ordinary audience now-a-days. It was introduced on Wednesday night for the sake, no doubt, of Mr. Augustus Brahms, who, however, failed to give it any effect. The rest of the concert was made up of songs and ballads, some of them pretty enough, and acerbely sung by Mrs. Alexander Newton, Miss Poole, Miss Alleyne, Mr. Augustus Brahms, and other popular vocalists; but all of them worn threadbare by constant repetition.

## MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

NINE QUARTETS for two Violins, Viola, and Violoncello. By J. L. ELLERTON. Schott and Co.

This is a complete edition, in score, of Mr. Lodge Ellerton's quartets, which have already been published separately, at various times, in this country, and are known and highly appreciated in our best musical circles. Mr. Ellerton is a gentleman of family and fortune, gifted by nature with great musical genius, and enabled by his position and circumstances to cultivate his genius by the highest resources of art. He is one of a daily increasing number of amateurs in this country who do not yield, in extent of attainment, to the most accomplished of our professed artists, and he has distinguished himself by many works of merit in the highest walks of vocal and instrumental composition.

Of all the classes of composition, the chamber quartet or quintet, for stringed instruments, is the most arduous, and demands the largest amount of inventive power and of technical acquirement. This form, accordingly, has been chosen by the most illustrious masters—Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Spohr, and Mendelssohn—for the embodiment of their grandest and most beautiful conceptions. It has been repeatedly essayed by our own composers; but we cannot name a single English musician who has gained celebrity as a quartet-writer; nor can we name any English composer whose works of this class are either so numerous or so worthy of distinction as those of Mr. Ellerton. From a careful examination of the scores before us, we are led to conclude that Mr. Ellerton has formed his style more upon the older writers than those of a later day—more upon Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven, than upon Spohr and Mendelssohn. But there is no servile adherence to any school. There is great freshness and originality in his ideas, as well as novelty and ingenuity in their treatment. Mr. Ellerton is thoroughly acquainted with the instruments for which he writes, and

knows how to turn their powers to account, either singly or in combination. In the slow movements, his melodies are often exceedingly vocal and expressive; and his harmonies, even in the most complicated passages, are pure, clear, and unembarrassed. Among these masterly pieces we scarcely know which to prefer; but we may specify the quartet in E flat, No. 2, of the first set; that in B flat, No. 1, of the second set; and that in C minor, No. 2, of the third set, as being pre-eminently beautiful, and worthy of companionship with the works of the greatest masters.

TWO SONGS: "Spring is Coming" and "Summer." Composed by JOSEPH ROBINSON.—DUET: "In dreams when sleep falls o'er me." By the Same. Chappell.

These are compositions of very superior merit, though by no means free from faults. In the two songs the melodies are sweet, flowing, expressive, and varied by smooth and happy modulations. Their instrumental accompaniments, too, are ingenious; but Mr. Robinson is much addicted to the ultra modern harmony, and sometimes sacrifices pure and natural chords for far-fetched crudities. In "Spring is Coming," for instance, we may mention in bar 4, page 3, the excessively harsh succession from the major common chord of D to the diminished seventh upon B natural, involving a false relation embarrassing to the voice. The beauty of the duet, too, is impaired by similar attempts at singularity. The modulation is so restless that it is difficult to discover the predominant key. It is meant to be G minor; but the very opening bars of the melody are really in B flat major, and the G minor harmony given to them is quite forced and unnatural. There are some crude intervals, too, in the vocal parts, particularly the leap, downwards, by a seventh, from D to E flat, which deviates sadly from the line of beauty, without any compensating meaning. The conclusion, in unison, on the fourth below the key-note, is a German affectation, sanctioned by the fashion of the day.

THE FIRESIDE OF OUR HOME: a two-part Song for Christmas time. The Poetry by F. W. EDWARDS. The Music by W. R. BRAIN. Cramer, Beale and Co.

This is a seasonable song. Both the poetry and the music are simple and unpretending; but the poetry speaks the home feelings which belong to the Christmas fireside, and the music is well fitted to sing them. It is to be sung by two solo voices, with a chorus in four-part harmony and, so performed, its effect will be found very pleasing.

THE HONEYMOON POLKA and HONEYMOON WALTZES. Composed by P. A. BLOCKLEY. Addison and Hollier.

THE BIRKBECK POLKA. Composed by V. MEDHURST. J. Duncombe

Waltzes and Polkas do not belong to a high class of musical composition. But, when good of their kind, they are not to be despised; for they may possess considerable intrinsic elegance, independently of their effect in enlivening a social evening. Such are the Waltzes and Polkas above named: they are pretty, lively, and well adapted for dancing.

## THE THEATRES, &c.

### HAYMARKET.

The long-announced re-appearance of Miss Cushman at this theatre took place on Monday. The character assumed was that of *Bianca*, in Milman's painful tragedy of "Fazio." Miss Cushman has lost none of her intensity of action—none of the energy of conception by which she was first distinguished. Her *Bianca* is a part of great power and of unparalleled pathos. We are constrained to pity, where we cannot approve. The witness of her jealousy, and the suddenness of her revenge, leave her without excuse, or adequate motive, save in the constitutional vehemence of her feelings: her emotion is left to be its own justification. Here it is that Miss Cushman triumphs. She gives to it a reality which she feels herself, and makes us feel also. She manifestly suffers what she expresses—the exclusiveness of her love, the whirlwind of the passions, whether of hatred or revenge, and the utter prostration of sense and soul, when the result of her conduct presses upon her in the loss of all she had hoped to secure by it. Never was such humiliation, such despair, as those with which she approaches *Aldabella* when pleading for her husband's life. Nor is this intense gloom relieved by her maniac entry on the gay ball-room of the courtesan. Still the same monotonous grief—still the same dull, dead melancholy; scarcely the exposure of her rival affords a gleam of satisfaction, and her heart breaks from the pressure of an unmitigable burthen. All this is wrought out with a consistency of purpose, and a natural expression on which testify to the artist's genius. We welcome most heartily this re-appearance of Miss Cushman, with powers evidently not diminished; but, as it strikes us, increased. Mr. Howe was the *Fazio*, and acted with much energy, and great natural expression; Mrs. Buckingham made a gorgeous *Aldabella*, though she wanted depth of purpose, and histrionic strength to give full expression to the poetic phases of the character. Mr. Chippendale, on the other hand, idealized the brief part of old *Bartolo*, and shed a light on the first act which it has seldom, we think, hitherto received. The scenery and dresses were all in good taste; and, as now acted, the drama of "Fazio" bids fair to be better appreciated than it generally falls to its lot to be.

THE ROYAL WINDSOR THEATRICALS, on Thursday week, were assisted by Mr. Wigan, who was suddenly sent for, and the Olympic Theatre consequently closed for the evening. The indisposition of Mrs. Kean, which was the immediate occasion of the telegraphic message, was attended, we understand, with alarming symptoms, which, we are glad to hear, have now subsided; and hopes are confidently entertained of her recovery.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—MOVING DIORAMA OF CONSTANTINOPLE.—*Apropos* of the state of affairs in the East, a series of pictures have been produced under the above title, accompanied with an explanatory lecture, written by Mr. Albert Smith and Mr. Shirley Brooks, and delivered by Mr. Charles Kenney. That it was both well written and well delivered will be readily credited. The jets told with special effect, and the descriptions were extremely lucid. Indeed, a full practical knowledge of the subject was displayed, communicated in a free and easy style. The principal scene of the first part was the approach to Constantinople from the Sea of Marmora, by Seraglio Point, with the Golden Horn, and views of Stamboul, Pera, and Galata. There were also the interiors of the Mosque of St. Sophia and of the Great Bazaar, which were appropriately grand. The second part was not without interest: the Slave-market; Subterranean City; the Bosphorus, with its various points of association; and the final set-scene (painted by William Beverley), of a Fire in Constantinople, are each and all striking scenes, the last in particular. At this juncture of public affairs, it is Diorama, we should think, will prove attractive and instructive. The sketches were made on the spot, by Mr. Allom, assisted in the subsequent painting by Mr. Desvignes and Mr. Gordon.

PRESENTATION OF A VALUABLE PIECE OF PLATE.—We alluded, in a recent Number of our Journal, to the detection and arrest of a fraudulent bankrupt—who had returned from Australia for a short time—by the vigilant exertions of Mr. J. B. Walker (of the firm of Messrs. J. and C. Boyd and Co. of Friday-street, Cheap-side). We have now the pleasing duty of recording the fact that many of the leading firms of the wholesale houses of London having decided on offering a splendid present to Mr. Walker, for his services. A meeting was held at the Guildhall Coffee-house, at which Mr. Foster (of the house of Foster, Porter, and Co.) was chairman, and a very handsome testimonial was presented to the former gentleman. This very beautiful tribute consists of a centre ornament of six lights and a basket of flowers, and a pair of candelabra en suite: the centre stands upon a massive plateau, very richly ornamented with vine and grapes; and upon the base are three figures emblematical of Perseverance, Wisdom, and Justice. The lower part is embellished with Mr. Walker's coat of arms, and bears a characteristic and suitable inscription. The funds to purchase this testimonial were raised by voluntary subscriptions; and the whole affair displayed a generous feeling on the part of the creditors benefited; and of courage, ability, and perseverance on the part of the recipient—to both alike worthy and honourable.

IRISH FISHERIES.—The long-neglected fisheries of the west of Ireland appear to be at length in a fair way of being rendered available. Captain Symonds, R.N., has been recently at Clifden and Westport, for the purpose of ascertaining the most proper place of fixing a fishing station, and it is rumoured that Clifden Bay is considered most eligible. The *Daily Express* says that "two large new steamers are on the stocks, constructed so as to carry in wells the fish alive to market; and at the same time take cattle, corn, butter, or any goods that may offer, to Liverpool. There can be no doubt that in either way this speculation must pay, if properly worked."

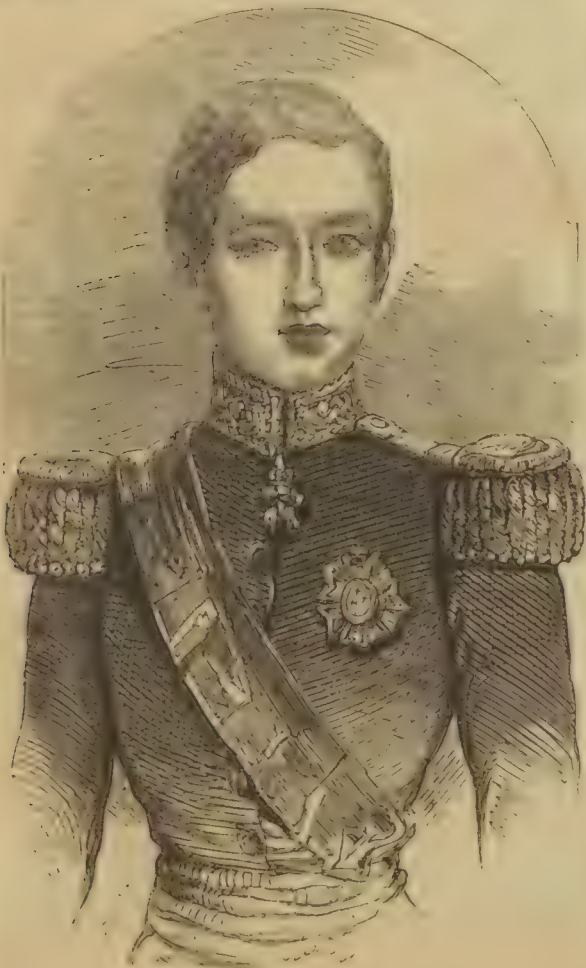




THE FLOOD AT DONCASTER.—INUNDATION OF MARSH-GATE.

## THE KING OF PORTUGAL.

THE young King of Portugal, Pedro V., had barely attained his sixteenth year when the melancholy death of his mother opened to him the nominal sovereignty of the kingdom—the actual powers being immediately wielded by his father, the King Regent. Dom Pedro is the eldest born of a large family. His mother resembled our own Queen in the care she bestowed on the education of her children—a duty too often neglected by Portuguese mothers. He has been carefully instructed in all the knowledge and accomplishments befitting his station; and he has already attracted towards himself the regards of his subjects by the suavity of his manners and his acquirements, which are above the average of those of Monarchs. Of a person so young there are no facts to record: his life is in the future. But he comes of a good stock. His mother, notwithstanding some faults of character, which did not prevent her being respected by her subjects, was an upright, courageous, and patriotic woman, who set her son the example of personal good conduct, and, in affairs of State, of a firm resistance to the intrigues who abound in the impure moral and political atmosphere of southern countries. It is



DOM PEDRO V., KING OF PORTUGAL.

understood that the young King inherits less of the faults than of the virtues of his deceased mother, and that he possesses all her patriotism, without her overbearing pride. Even had he not had the advantage of so careful a mother, from his father he would have inherited royal virtues. The King Consort, himself a highly-educated man, and coming from a stock which has given to Europe a race of astute Sovereigns and virtuous and accomplished Princesses, has watched over the education of the youthful King, and prepared him for the part he has to play in his country. This may be a more difficult one than might be predicted from the external tranquillity of Portugal. The Miguelite faction is not there extinct; and the chief guarantee of the future stability of the dynasty will be in the personal virtues and conduct of this the first male Sovereign since the throne was conveyed through the female line. The King Regent, who discharges the functions of Government until the coming of age of the Sovereign, is, as our readers are aware, first cousin of Prince Albert, being the son of Duke Ferdinand, who was uncle of the present Duke of Saxe-Coburg, and of our own Prince Consort. The brother of the King Regent is married to a daughter of the late King Louis Philippe. The Regent, who has never pretended to take an active share in state affairs, has the reputation of being an extremely good man as a private individual. As a husband he resembled the Coburgs generally, in setting an example to his subjects. He steered clear of politics; and, although holding a high military command, he avowedly has no taste for a martial life. On the occasion of the

last revolution in Portugal he was, much against his will and his better sense, forced by the Queen to command the troops sent against the Duke of Saldanha. His reluctance was justified by the result, for all his men deserted him for the enemy's ranks, and he was obliged to return by stealth to the palace, accompanied by only a few officers. Since he became King Consort, he has devoted himself to the encouragement of the arts and sciences in Portugal. His income, derived from the State, he has applied to the improvement of the roads, especially about Cintra. The Pena Convent in the latter place he has bought, and converted into a palace, with plantations, drives, &c. He resembles Prince Albert in the face; has expressive blue eyes, and a fair complexion, and is rather tall. He is very fond of music and painting; and, in his general conduct, is respected and beloved by all. The best character we can give of the young King is, that he resembles the King Regent in the qualities for which he is most admired. From the evidences he has already given of capacity, the best expectations are entertained of his future conduct. In this respect, he resembles the young Duke of Brabant, whose position and fortunes are so much like his own.

**PHOTOLITHOGRAPHIC PROCESS.**—In a recent sitting of the Société d'Encouragement pour l'Industrie Nationale, it was stated that a photolithographic process, which has so long been desired, has at length been discovered. It was thus described:—An ordinary lithographic stone is taken, and a solution of *bitume de Judée* (Jew's pitch) is placed on it. A negative photographic proof is then put on it, and is pressed on the stone for a period which may vary from ten minutes to four or five hours. The stone is then washed with pure ether, which soon evaporates. The figure is then found properly marked with its lights and shades; and it may be inked and drawn off as in ordinary lithographs. In the same sitting it was announced that a deaf and dumb man had discovered the means of painting photographic designs with a perfection not hitherto attained.

## BALLOONING AT BOMBAY.

THE idle taste for witnessing Balloon Ascent, appears to have reached Bombay; and to have induced an aéronaut to peril his life, and it is feared, add to the list of fatal catastrophes. A Correspondent writes from Bombay, Dec. 14, as follows:—

BOMBAY, Dec. 14, 1853.

Mr. Kight, a distinguished aéronaut (distinguished by his former failures), has made an ascent from the Grant-road, in the presence of a large concourse of natives, amongst whom was the Rajah of Dar, who promised Mr. Kight 2000 rupees if he went up and came down again, of which the Rajah seemed to entertain great doubts. At half-past three, p.m., all being ready, Mr. Kight stepped into the car; immediately the balloon rose slowly amidst the cheers of the assembled multitude. When about 800 yards up the balloon seemed to enter another current of air; it rose rapidly, and travelled in a north-westerly direction—straight out to sea; about five it had reached its greatest elevation (8000 feet), when it was observed to collapse, and descend at a frightful rate into the sea, about two miles off the Lighthouse. Several native fishing-boats were close by; but they were so terrified that they made the best of their way on shore, and left the poor aéronaut to perish, if he was not already dead, which in all probability was the case. The Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy used every exertion to arrive at the spot before dark,



BALLOON ACCIDENT, AT BOMBAY.

but could not succeed. Next day, several boats were sent out to try and discover some remains of the balloon; but returned in the evening equally unsuccessful. I send you a small sketch of the Descent, as it appeared from the Lighthouse.

## PLATE PRESENTED TO THE HON. HENRY BOYLE BERNARD.

AT Bandon, on Tuesday, the 17th inst., a deputation from the Bandon tenantry presented to the Hon. H. B. Bernard a splendid Candelabrum, in testimony of his exertions for their benefit on all occasions, and particularly for his kindness to them during years of famine and distress.

The Candelabrum, manufactured by Mr. Hacket, of Cork, is three-and-a-half feet high, and of solid silver. The stems, of olive, pomegranate and fig-trees, support a basket for flowers and six candlesticks. Three dancing bacchantes figures surround the stems, supporting a wreath of vines. At the base are three figures, representing Industry, Plenty, and Peace. Above the base are the inscription and two coats of arms.

An address having been read by G. C. Harris, Esq., on behalf of the servants, the party, to the number of fifty, favoured Mr. and Mrs. Bernard by their company at a *déjeuner*. The company invited to meet the tenantry included the Earl and Countess of Bandon and Lady Harriet



PLATE PRESENTED TO THE HON. HENRY BOYLE BERNARD.

Bernard, Viscount Bernard, Oct. Turner, Esq., Hon. C. B. and Mrs. Bernard (Kilbrogan), R. W. Doherty, Esq., the Rev. G. S. Swinney, &c. The Engraving is from a drawing by Mr. Stopford, of Cork.

## THE FLOOD AT DONCASTER.

IN our last Number we narrated the overflow of the river at Doncaster, and the fearful state of the part of the town known as the Marsh-gate. We now give some further particulars of this shocking inundation. As regarded this portion of the town, it may be said, that never was witnessed, on the part of the hundreds of spectators, so deep a feeling of commiseration. It had been previously known that the flood on Mexbro' Lugs, about seven miles up the river, was three feet higher than it had ever been known before; and, as the water kept rapidly rising, great fears were entertained that it would be a considerable time before it would subside. This conviction rendered the situation in which the poor people in Marsh-gate were placed, almost overflowed, still more pitiable—a condition still more deplorable by the high price of coals and provisions. Still the waters kept rising, and in consequence of the height to which they had reached in the street, the Mayor gave orders for cabs to be constantly plying along the whole of Marsh-gate, in order to convey passengers to and from the town—a ferry of a very novel and unprecedented character. Fears were likewise entertained that the Mill-bridge would be blown up by the force of the current, which seemed to in-



crease in impetuosity. This, in all probability, would have been the case, if the thick ice with which the river was bound had not previously broken up with little disturbance. Had it been otherwise, the weight of the stream and pressure of large blocks of ice would have doomed the Mill-bridge to inevitable destruction—perhaps, swept it away altogether.

From the Great Northern Railway, crossing to the residence of Mr. John Ward, farmer, the road was crowded with spectators, and the greatest anxiety appeared to be manifested for the occupiers of Marsh-gate. Vehicles of every description were brought into use, and many individuals were carried through the turbulent stream in carts, on the payment of a penny. The whole of the property in this unfortunate district was under water. It was truly pitiable to behold the occupiers driven from their fire-sides to take shelter in their upper rooms. All communication was almost entirely cut off from them, as no one ventured into the yards of the lower parts of Marsh-gate.

In Swift's-yard the people were greatly alarmed, in consequence of the great rapidity in the rise of the water in so short a time, and all had to take refuge on the second floors, without being able to carry with them any fuel and the necessities of life. Tables, chairs, and other articles were floating about in the lower rooms, and sometimes came in collision with the framework of the windows. From Gray Friar's-buildings to the Marsh-gate-bridge the road was one sheet of water, and the whole of the houses were inundated to an extent hitherto unknown.

The next morning (Thursday) the Marsh-gate was still impassable. It is impossible to give an adequate idea of the destruction to property which it has occasioned. During the night the water gradually subsided, a foot in some places, and less in others, but there was no indication of any material subsidence of the water until about eight o'clock this morning, when the Bentley bank burst, and the water rushed with fearful impetuosity on the Bentley Ings, and on the lands on each side of the Selby turnpike, as far as Bentley and Arksey. The circumstance afforded an outlet for the water in Marsh-gate, and consequently, from the time above-named, the flood became gradually less. Two large heaps of railway sleepers, which had been washed down the river, were picked up at the Marsh-gate lock; the water also forced its way into Mr. Stone's, the New River Tavern, and the approach to it was impassable. From the field behind the New River Tavern the water continued to rush as furiously as ever over the turnpike and into the Falcon yard.

The whole neighbourhood bore marks of the devastating flood; and the deprivation which the poor people in Marsh-gate experienced was truly lamentable. From an early hour on Thursday morning vehicles of every description were plying from Grey-Friar's-buildings to the Mill-bridge, the inundation being confined within those two points. The water in several of the courts and yards was as high as the window sills, and all the inhabitants were house-bound. In the evening fears began to be entertained as to the difficulty of lighting the public lamps in this district; but a small boat was procured, and rowed by two men underneath the gas lamps, when one of the men climbed the wall and lighted them. No communication whatever could be made with the inhabitants, except by means of ladders, which enabled some of them to receive provisions, &c., for immediate wants. Others were quite unable to obtain anything, either in the shape of food or fuel.

This flood has been more disastrous in its effects than any other yet known. The poor people have been deprived of their domestic comfort and daily labour, and their articles of furniture have been damaged and some destroyed. During Thursday and the evening the water in Marsh-gate had so far subsided as to admit of persons walking from one end of the street to the other, and the inhabitants were actively engaged in discharging the water from their respective houses. The banks of the river at Barmby Dun were burst, and the neighbourhood was fearfully inundated; but the waters have since much subsided.

The accompanying view of the Marsh-gate, during the flood, is from a sketch by Mr. H. Tilbury, of Doncaster.

### THE LATE REMARKABLE WEATHER.

At the last meeting of the British Meteorological Society, January 24, a paper was read, "On the Meteorology of the Past Quarter, in connection with the Fall of Snow at the beginning of the Year," by James Glaisher, Esq., F.R.S. In commencement, Mr. Glaisher spoke of the value of association as afforded by the society, to the members of which he was chiefly indebted for the observations upon which his paper was based. The different elements of investigation were treated singly, that the bearing of each upon the other might be clearly shown. "For," observed Mr. Glaisher, "the correctness of the accepted truism that in nature no phenomenon is isolated was never better illustrated than at a time when the readings of the barometer and thermometer, the dense fogs, the heavy snow, and the pertinacious east wind formed a combination—no scarcely more abnormal in its departure from the average than the rest."

In October, between Jersey and lat. 51°, the mean temperature declined 4°; between lat. 51° and 53°, there was no difference. In November, south of lat. 51° and north of lat. 53° it declined about 6°; but between these parallels to 9°, forming a band of cold the greatest that was experienced, and which held its ground during the long period of two months. Fog was one of the most remarkable features during the quarter. In November fogs frequently enveloped the whole country at one time, and were of great density. They chiefly occupied the band of cold between lat. 51° and 53° before mentioned.

The first fall of snow took place in the neighbourhood of Chester, in November. After Dec. 15, it fell at nearly every place; but more frequently between lat. 51° and 53° than elsewhere. On Dec. 15 it was, in many places, as deep as six inches. On the following day, the temperature, as registered at Manchester, was as low as 6°, but the maximum cold for the season took place on the night common to Dec. 28 and 29. This cold extended as far as our meteorological stations, from Jersey to Arbroath, in the North of Scotland. The extreme severity of Jan. 3rd was not at all felt south of the parallel of Uckfield, in Sussex. About London and its vicinity the reading of the thermometer fell early in the morning to 10°, 11°, 12°, and 13°. It had reached the low points at one o'clock in the morning, and did not rise above them till eight o'clock. It was most severely felt in the Midland Counties, where the reading was as low as zero. By Mr. Lowe it was estimated at 4° this is the lowest reading observed by any one—it was lower than any in the immediate neighbourhood.

A number of original communications from various observers were read by Mr. Glaisher, on the fall of snow on January 3, which was generally distributed over the country, but lay deepest between the parallels of latitude occupied by the fog and extreme cold. In parts of Cornwall there was none or very little; whilst at Holkham, on the Norfolk coast, it was 18 inches on the level. At Whitehaven there was scarcely an inch; but at Liverpool, and other places in the same parallel, 6, 10, and 14 inches fell. The north was, in parts, comparatively clear; and in parts of Northumberland no snow at all fell on the day of the great and general fall. There had been much snow previously, and it then lay on the ground to the depth of several feet. The drifts over England and Wales varied from 3 feet to 10, 12, and 15 feet. They were very deep at Derby and at Grantham, and upon the Norfolk coast.

In conclusion, as connected with the severity of the weather as falling beneath his own observation, Mr. Glaisher remarked that trees were sheathed with ice for some days, till Jan. 4, when it began to crack, and fall to the ground. Beneath a row of trees in the immediate vicinity of his house, it was literally strewn with large fragments, each retaining the curvature of the branch it originally encased. Animals, ordinarily exposed on Blackheath, suffered severely, and two were observed frozen to death; also birds, which had fallen dead from the trees, were picked up in the immediate neighbourhood. The number of crystallised flakes mingled with the snow was another indication of the low temperature under which it had been formed. Mr. Glaisher laid before the meeting a number of photographic copies of several he had himself observed on January 1 of the present year.

At the conclusion of the paper, J. C. Whitbread, Esq., rose and commented upon the value of the paper, and the elaborate nature of the work. A vote of thanks was moved to Mr. Glaisher, and unanimously carried. The meeting was numerously attended.

**THE POPE AND THE CZAR.**—The Papal Government is said to be preparing an article on the subject of the Holy Places, which will be a reply, supported by facts, to certain historical assertions of the Government of St. Petersburg. It is to be first communicated to the different allied Courts, and will probably be afterwards published in the *Civiltà Cattolica*. The Pontifical Court is apprehensive that, whatever may be the issue of the struggle between Turkey and Russia, there will result from it a fresh consecration for the benefit of the Greeks of the whole, or a fresh portion, of the Holy Places, and it wishes beforehand to throw as much light as possible on the question.

**COST OF CLERGYMEN.**—Some people talk a great deal about ministers, and the cost of keeping them, paying their house-rent, table expenses, and other items of salary. Did such creakers ever think that it costs thirty-five million dollars to pay the salaries of American lawyers; that twelve millions of dollars are paid out annually to keep our criminals; and ten millions of dollars to keep the dogs in the midst of us alive; while only six millions of dollars are spent annually to keep six thousand preachers in the United States? These are facts, and statistics will show them to be facts. No one thing exerts such a mighty influence in keeping this mighty republic from falling to pieces as the Bible and its ministers.—*New York Recorder*.

### NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

**PORTSMOUTH.**—The utmost activity prevails in every department of this dockyard and its dependencies; and the Royal Clarence victualling establishment, Gosport, is in full work, baking and storing provisions for the fleet. The *Simoom*, 18, screw troop-frigate, Capt. Smith, is ordered to be ready for sea on the 15th February; *Basilik*, 6, paddle, Commander Egerton, by the 1st; and *Dawntless*, 33, screw, Captain Ryder, by the 3rd. Repairs are also to be immediately made in the steam troop-ship *Vulcan*, Captain Von Donop, as she will be required for service forthwith. Drafts of gunners have been ordered from the *Excellent*, for service in the *Cesar*, 91, screw, and *James Watt*, 91, at Devonport. The *Cesar*, 91, and *Dragon*, 6 (steam-ships), are ordered to be commissioned; the former by Captain Robb, and the latter by Captain Wilcox. Her Majesty's ship *Frolic*, 16, Commander Nolloth, has sailed from Spithead for Sydney, South Australia. The *Apollo*, store-ship, has sailed for the Black Sea, with provisions, &c., for the fleet under Admiral Duadas. The *Colossus*, 80, was docked for conversion to a screw-ship on Thursday.

**PLYMOUTH.**—The screw steam-ship *James Watt*, 90, has been commissioned by Captain George Elliot. The screw steamer *Nile*, 90, having been fitted with a screw propeller, will be taken out of dock on Monday, the 30th inst. The *Algiers*, 90, new screw steamer, was launched on Thursday.

**PEMBROKE.**—The new Royal steam-yacht, the *Windsor Castle*, is to be completed in six months from the present time. She will be built of solid mahogany, upon the diagonal planking system. The principal dimensions are—length over all, 315 feet; breadth, 40 feet; and depth of hold, 22 feet. Tonnage, 2400 tons. She will be 20 or 30 feet longer than the *Duke of Wellington*.

**ASSISTANT ENGINEERS.**—It has been communicated to the young men in the factories at the dockyards, that any of them desirous of entering the Royal Navy as third class assistant engineers will be accepted, if under twenty-eight years of age, on their passing the necessary examination as to their qualifications for that service.

**THE ROYAL DOCKYARDS.**—All classes in her Majesty's dockyards, artificers, labourers, &c., are now placed on job stock-work, and all earn, according to a revised scale of prices, as much money as their skill and industry can secure them.

**THE ROYAL STEAM FORCE OF GREAT BRITAIN.**—The progress of our Royal steam navy is wonderful: England possesses more marine steam-power in her Royal navy than all the steam fleets of the world combined could furnish. A few years since, we possessed only some 14,000-horse power; but, on the 1st of January, 1854, the British navy included no less than 202 steam-vessels of all classes; whilst the nominal steam-power of machinery in those ships represented more than that of 55,300 horses, with a reserve of 2800-horse power available for other Royal ships.

**SOUTH-WEST DISTRICT.**—The remainder of the 20th Foot have left Winchester by railway for Plymouth. The 35th Foot is expected to move from Portsmouth to Chatham, to embark for India in May. The 2nd battalion of the Coldstream Guards, at Chichester Barracks, has been instructed in great gun drill by the Royal Artillery. It is stated that this battalion of Foot Guards will exchange to Winchester Barracks.

**READY FOR SERVICE.**—It is rumoured that the 60th Rifles, the 79th Highlanders, and some of the Guards, are to hold themselves in readiness for instant departure.

**NEW SUMMER TROUSERS FOR THE INFANTRY.**—The texture of these trousers is the same as of those hitherto in use, the colour only being changed to dark blue, with a red stripe down the seam.

**ENLISTMENT FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY.**—A great many young men, varying in age from eighteen to thirty years, have arrived in London during the week from various parts of Somersetshire and Dorsetshire. They have come to town for the purpose of enlisting in her Majesty's service, and from the description given by them, many others will follow in a few days. It is expected that a strong levy will be made in the provinces, as there seems more reason now-a-days to believe that the promises held out to the men of bettering their condition will be fully carried out.

**LONDON AND BRIGHTON RAILWAY COMPANY.**—On Thursday the half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the Bridge House Hotel—S. Laing, Esq., in the chair—when the dividend of £3 4s. per cent (making 5 per cent for the year) was declared, and the arrangements for working the West-End and Crystal Palace Railway Company approved. In the course of the proceedings the chairman expressed his confidence that, should there be no unforeseen disturbing causes, the dividend of 5 per cent would continue to be maintained; though, from the high price of labour and materials used on railways, their expenses must of necessity be increased.

**COSMOS INSTITUTION.**—On Thursday a meeting was held at Exeter-hall to promote the establishment of a society under this name for the advancement of education and science—the great globe in Leicester-square to be purchased for the purposes of the society. Sir J. Dorat, M.D., took the chair; and resolutions approving of the establishment of the institution were unanimously passed.

**ROYAL PANOPTICON OF SCIENCE AND ART.**—On Thursday a special meeting of this corporation, which has for its object the diffusion of science and of taste for the fine arts, was held at the institution, Leicester-square, when the directors received authority to apply for a supplementary charter, in confirmation of the original one—a step rendered necessary by their late solicitor having neglected to lodge a copy of it at the offices of the Board of Trade within the period prescribed by law.

**BRITISH SHIPPING IN TURKISH AND RUSSIAN PORTS.**—The number of vessels which entered the various ports of the Turkish Empire in 1851 was 2121; the number which entered the Russian ports was 2322. The difference in the number of vessels is in favour of Russia, but the tonnage employed in the Turkish trade is greatly superior to that engaged in the Russian. The total British tonnage which entered the ports of the Czar was 245,874 tons; while the ports of the Sultan, exclusive of Moldavia, Wallachia, and Egypt, were entered by British vessels of an aggregate tonnage of 404,000—the tonnage of vessels entering the single port of Constantinople being more than equal to the whole of the British tonnage which entered Russian ports. The tonnage of British vessels entering Alexandria in Egypt, amounts to over 120,000 tons, and 304 British vessels (tonnage not stated) were engaged in 1851 in the British trade with Moldavia and Wallachia. Upon this point, then, it would appear that the value of the trades of the two countries with Great Britain will, contrary to the opinion of Mr. Cobden, bear an honourable comparison.

**LIBERATION OF CONVICTS.**—During the year 1853, the first in which the tickets-of-leave were granted to the convicts serving in the hulks and convict stations in this country, there were a total number of 81 permitted to return to their native places, or such other localities where they were most likely to obtain employment, and avoid associating with their former companions of a doubtful character. The New Act for relieving the hulks and prisons of convicts, after the abolition of transportation to New South Wales, and the penal colonies in the rich countries of Australia, has only been in operation for a few months during the past year, and the result of the experiment has not as yet been fully tested, to allow of a judgment being formed whether the measure will prove beneficial to the country or the contrary. Formerly, it was found to be difficult to give full employment to the convicts, as the dockyards and arsenals were considered the only places in which they could be employed on heavy work with advantage, when placed under a military guard, in addition to their usual convict-keepers. The means of profitably employing convicts is now different, as the requirement of an immense quantity of coals for the steam-ships of the Royal Navy has opened up a field for their labour in coal-mines, which the Government is urged to make use of. There is ample room underground for evil-doers, and even for wife-beating husbands sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

**AN AGED AUTHOR.**—The Rev. Dr. Routh, the venerable President of Magdalen College (Oxford), who has attained the age of 99, has just completed a work, consisting of extracts from some of the ancient fathers, with an original introduction. It is intended as an appendix to the larger work which he compiled some years ago, entitled "Reliquiæ Sacre." Dr. Routh is in excellent health, and in the full enjoyment of all his faculties, and continues his literary pursuits with unabated zeal and enjoyment. He has lately lost a sister, who had attained the great age of 89 years. This event for a time had a depressing effect on his spirits.

**GRAND AMATEUR CONCERT AT WORCESTER.**—This brilliant reunion, which took place at the Assembly Rooms, on Tuesday last, went off with much éclat. The programme contained a choice and varied selection of the most popular morceaux of the day, all of which were worthily interpreted. We may more particularly make mention of the exquisite performance of Miss Clifton, and Miss C. Pole, in Rossini's grand duet "Gloppo d'Orrore," which was enthusiastically applauded. The instrumental portion was also a great treat, especially a quartet for four concertinas, the first part of which was brilliantly executed by Lady G. Lygon. The Concert was finally brought to a triumphant close by Meyerbeer's Grand March from *La Prophète*, arranged for fifteen concertinas, the effect of which was extremely pleasing. The choruses were also well given. Among the company were the Bishop of Worcester, the Earl Beauchamp, Lady G. Lygon, Hon. F. Lygon, Lady Ward, Lord Ward, Lord Roakey, Sir John Pakington, M.P., and Lady Pakington, Lady E. Browne, Sir E. and Lady Blount, and most of the gentry of the town and neighbourhood.

### POSTSCRIPT.

#### TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

**VIENNA, Thursday, Jan. 26.**—Our Constantinople correspondent writes that the *Trebizond* steamer, which reached Constantinople on the 10th, left the sailing vessels, under Admirals Dundas and Hamelin, at Sinope; and the steamers, under Admirals Barbier de Tinan and Lyons, advancing towards Batoum. When the *Retribution* joined the fleet she reported only five ships of the line at Sebastopol.

Prince Woronzoff's resignation has not been accepted.

**ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 18.**—It is believed that Count Orloff has received a confidential mission from the Czar for the Courts of Vienna, Berlin, Paris, and London. The energetic conduct of the Western Powers has produced that effect, and might lead to an arrangement without wounding too much the national amour propre. The Czar is said to be greatly irritated against those who had urged him on to war, and fears were frequently entertained that he would have an attack of apoplexy. Another rumour says that he has sent to Prince Menshikov the order to operate at sea as if the combined fleets were not there, and to continue the armaments at Odessa.

#### RUSSIA.

The Czar seems unwilling to abandon to the last moment the part he has hitherto assumed—not of the wrong-doer, but the wronged—not of the attacker, but the attacked; and he evidently prefers leaving to England and France the initiative in the complete rupture of diplomatic relations. While these notes and counter-notes are exchanged with diplomatic courtesy, private letters from St. Petersburg speak of the existence of an effervescence among the population of which it is difficult to give a just idea. The Czar, whether willingly or by the force of what there stands for public opinion, encourages that general exaltation. His presence is hailed with frenzied shouts by the mob of "Orthodox believers" who throng the public ways and the churches; and even if he would, he dare not arrest that mad excitement. This state of things is alarming, and it seems not unlikely that an explosion of such a kind may take place as shall force the Emperor to publish a formal declaration of war even before his plans are matured.

The Odessa correspondent of the *Wanderer*, who is generally well-informed, wrote on the 12th that the first point at which the fleets were to touch was Sinope. Troops were continually marching through towards Braila, and it was considered certain that the Danube would be passed at that spot, or somewhere in the neighbourhood. For some days such tremendous quantities of beams, spars, fascines, and artillery have been forwarded, that it no longer admitted of a doubt that the most important operations were to be undertaken towards the lower end of the Danube. The news from St. Petersburg was anything but reassuring, the commanding officers having received orders to proceed with all possible energy. "The only chance of restoring peace is that the Porte may send a Plenipotentiary direct to St. Petersburg, for nothing less will satisfy the Emperor. The armaments throughout the whole empire surpass all belief." Trade was brisk, but the English and French ships were evidently in a hurry to be off. Perfectly credible advices of the 11th from St. Petersburg confirm the report of a new emission of Bank notes to the amount of 60,000,000 silver roubles. The organisation of all the reserve battalions has been ordered. We learn from Warsaw that on the 6th a part of the infantry corps, under General Paniutin, received orders to be prepared to march. The strength of the army of occupation in Poland is 43,000 troops of the line, and 24,000 men in garrison. These last are invalids.

#### AUSTRIA.

The intentions of Austria, in the event of a war, which is now considered inevitable, may be divined from the following short article in the *Oest Correspondenz* of the 21st ult.:

The report, which has run through the papers, that the Imperial Royal Internuncio and the Prussian Minister at Constantinople had protested against the Anglo-French fleets entering the Black Sea, has already been contradicted; but, in order that the exact truth may be known, we add the following:

"When the representatives of the two great German Powers received the non-official intelligence that the fleets were about to be sent to sea, they considered it their duty to take measures for placing it beyond all doubt that the step had been resolved on without their having any hand in it (Zuthum).

"M. de Schreiner, the first dragoman of the Imperial Royal Embassy, was therefore sent to Redschid Pacha, with written instructions, and was besides instructed to leave a copy of them. The contents of the document were, that the measure in question must be considered as being beyond the agreement which the Austrian Court had, on the 12th December, entered into with the Governments of France, Great Britain, and Prussia."

The *Kreuz Zeitung*, which is just now a good authority on Russo-Austrian views in the Oriental conflict, informs us that:—

It is generally understood that the Austrian Internuncio has protested solemnly and for the last time against the presence of Selim Pacha (Graf Jelinsky), and other fugitives, in Kalafat. This renegade, in the course of the campaign in Montenegro last year, used a style of language very offensive to Austria, and Graf Leiningen proposed to have him sent to a distance from the Austrian frontier. This removal was also promised, and the Sultan with his own hand signed the note containing this promise amongst other matters. The Turkish Ministry does not act fairly (loyal) towards Austria in this matter, for the composition of a corps of officers in Widdin and Kalafat out of elements obnoxious to Austria is a challenge to the Austrian Cabinet, which has hitherto not been duly answered, for the sole reason that it was found not desirable to take any step that would prejudice the negotiations for peace, which are being so zealously promoted by the Austrian Internuncio. These considerations, however, will probably be soon at an end. We hear that Austria will back her remonstrances by stationing a corps on the frontier under the command of General Graf Schlick.

#### PRUSSIA.

Letters from Berlin state that the last news from St. Petersburg has greatly excited the Prussian Government. The feeling of the Czar was still against the proposition of France and England, and but little hope was entertained that the note would be accepted. Well-informed statesmen, however, think that the Czar, while he adheres to his resolution to treat alone with Turkey, without the intervention of any other power, will, nevertheless, give an evasive answer, so as to allow him not to recall his Ambassadors from London and Paris. He will also try to make some new attempts at the German Courts, and throw on the Western Powers all the burden of events in the Black Sea, as regards any new act on their part tending to a declaration of war, and the signal of an open rupture. His overtures with the view of bringing about another interview between the three Sovereigns have been received at Vienna, and still more at Berlin, with great reserve.

#### FRANCE.

**PARIS, Thursday Night.**—A private telegraphic despatch from Constantinople, of the 16th, announces that the combined fleets were making sail for Varna; and that the Russian fleet was cruising off Kalfa, at the entrance of the Sea of Azoff.

There was a report that the city of Kars had been taken by the Russians.

The Bourse has to day again shown much firmness. The Three per Cents closed at 70f. 40c. for the end of the month; and the Four-and-a-Half per Cents at 98f. 50c.

#### SPAIN.

**MADRID, Jan. 21.**—The Supreme Court of War and Marine has been reorganised and placed under the Presidency of the Captain-General, Villacampa.

#### AMERICA.

By the screw-steamer *Alps*, which arrived at Liverpool on Thursday, we have advices from New York to the 14th inst. The ship *Three Bells* had arrived at New York with 230 of the survivors from the wrecked steam-ship *San Francisco*. There was no news of importance from Washington. The New York Stock-market was depressed, but there was no alteration in the Money-Market. Flour was in good demand, at slightly advanced price. Wheat was also dearer. The ship *Chauncy*, Jerome, Jun., from Liverpool, for New York, was ashore near the islands below New York, with her back broken and badly bilged. Crew and passengers saved.

**SHORT PASSAGE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC BY A SAILING SHIP.**—The new clipper, *Red Jacket*, Captain Elridge, arrived in the Mersey on Tuesday afternoon, after a run of 13 days 1 hour and 25 minutes, having left New York on the 11th inst. She is one of the handsomest vessels ever built, possessing, with the greatest symmetry of model, immense strength and carrying capacity. From her log we take the following daily runs:—Wednesday, 11th, 103 miles; 12th, 150; 13th, 265; 14th, 311; 15th, 217; 16th, 106; 17th, 121; 18th, 319; 19th, 413 (!); 20th, 374; 21st, 342; 22nd, 300; and 23rd, 371 miles.



## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, January 29.—4th Sunday after Epiphany. George III. died. MONDAY, 30.—King Charles I. beheaded, 1649. TUESDAY, 31.—Hilary Term ends. Guido Fawkes executed, 1606. WEDNESDAY, February 1.—Pheasant and Partridge shooting ends. THURSDAY, 2.—Purification. Candlemas Day. FRIDAY, 3.—St. Blaise. SATURDAY, 4.—Stoppage of the United States' Bank, 1840.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,  
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 4.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
2 20	2 45	3 10	3 35	4 15	4 35	5 0
5 20	5 45	6 10	6 35	7 15	7 35	8 0

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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

RUSTICUS.—We cannot spare room for your long letter on the British Museum, for the reform of which there seem to be as many plans as for its Library Catalogue.  
ALPHA says that on the tomb of Charlemagne, at Aix la Chapelle, the bee is represented as embroidered on his mantle; and that Napoleon, in imitation of his illustrious predecessor, adopted it as his emblem.  
A CORRESPONDENT, 19, Birch-lane.—Motto of Nicholl: "Nil falsi audeat."  
S. A. P.—The Beresford Viscountcy has become extinct. It was conferred on the distinguished soldier the late Marshal Beresford and the heirs male of his body, and ends, consequently, with his Lordship, who has died without issue.  
Z. X. (in reply to a letter of three sides) is recommended to consult the "Fares of Hackney Carriages" just published by authority of the Commissioners of Metropolitan Police.  
M. E., Weymouth.—Any manufacturer of papier-mâché will supply you with imitative mother-of-pearl.  
T. R. H.—Hints for the Management of Gold Fish are appended to Bechstein's work on Cage Birds.  
W. H. T.—See "Mauder's Treasury of Natural History."  
E. E. S.—"To err is human; to forgive, divine;" is line 525 in Pope's "Essay on Criticism."  
INVENTOR, Goswell-street.—The Lancashire Sewing-machine may be seen at the Company's Office, 2, Lawrence-lane, Cheapside.  
G. H. L.—The verses are ineligible.  
A RESIDENT, Kensington, is thanked.  
I. S. J., Camelford.—The sketches will be engraved.  
J. D. C.—Specimens of stained glass may be seen at Wilmshurst's works, Foley-place.  
A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—The North British Mail is published in Glasgow.  
COMMON THINGS.—Our correspondent will doubtless procure the information he seeks, on application to Lord Ashburton.  
A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER, Galton, Dorset.—We do not find Woodsford among the Dorset castles destroyed in the Civil War; but we have not "Hutchins's History of Dorset" at hand.  
A SUBSCRIBER, Norton Hall.—See "Short Short-Hand."  
TALGARTH.—Mr. J. H. Wiffen, the translator of Tasso, has been dead many years.  
J. M. T., Nottingham.—Received.  
G. R. A.—The price of the beautifully-illustrated edition of Gray's "Elegy," lately published, is 7s. 6d.  
J. D. D., Ball's Pond; and M. M. D., Liverpool.—The lines are inadmissible.  
C. E. J. is thanked; but we have not room for his suggestion.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT,  
AND THE

## WAR BETWEEN TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

Next SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4th, will be Published, a Splendid  
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## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1854.

THE Emperor of Russia has asked for information on the subject of the entrance of the Allied fleets into the Euxine. He does not treat the mere fact of their entrance as a declaration of war; and M. Brunnow will therefore remain in London, and M. Kisseleff in Paris, until the Governments of Great Britain and France shall officially declare to the Emperor, that their fleets are not to be passive spectators of, but active participants in, the struggle between the Emperor and the Sultan. The notification conveyed to the Emperor, was sufficiently explicit, one would think, to have left no room for doubt. They were not only conveyed to himself at St. Petersburg, but to his Admiral, at Sebastopol; and, by the aid of the Allies in the Euxine, the Turks have been enabled to convey troops and warlike stores to their Generals in Asia Minor. If, however, his Imperial Majesty desires more explicitness, there can be no reason why the two Governments should not re-state their intentions in the plainest terms consistent with courtesy. But Europe does not appear to be in any doubt as to the real meaning of this new demand. It is not considered probable that the Czar has changed his mind, or that he is less bent than before upon the conquest of Turkey. To gain time seems more likely to be his object. The motive is quite intelligible in itself, and quite consistent with his character. If he could prolong negotiation on any pretext until March or April, he could bring all his forces to bear on the line of the Danube, and at the same time operate against Schumla and Varna. If successful in so bold a scheme, his armies might once again cross the Balkan, and Constantinople would be at his feet. It is to be hoped, however, if time be the Emperor's object, that he will not be allowed to succeed in it. The Allies have as many reasons for promptitude as he has for delay. To negotiation in good faith, there can be no objection; but to negotiation as a mere sham and make-believe, there is every objection that wisdom and policy can urge. We therefore hope that the Emperor will be allowed no chance of mistaking what England and France mean in this business. They mean to have peace, and they mean to secure the independence of Turkey; and they mean to try whether they cannot attain both, by the compulsion of Russia—by moral compulsion, if possible; by physical compulsion, if no other will answer. They are thoroughly in earnest, and never were more so than at the present moment.

stantinople would be at his feet. It is to be hoped, however, if time be the Emperor's object, that he will not be allowed to succeed in it. The Allies have as many reasons for promptitude as he has for delay. To negotiation in good faith, there can be no objection; but to negotiation as a mere sham and make-believe, there is every objection that wisdom and policy can urge. We therefore hope that the Emperor will be allowed no chance of mistaking what England and France mean in this business. They mean to have peace, and they mean to secure the independence of Turkey; and they mean to try whether they cannot attain both, by the compulsion of Russia—by moral compulsion, if possible; by physical compulsion, if no other will answer. They are thoroughly in earnest, and never were more so than at the present moment.

THE annual gathering of the Manchester politicians is, no doubt, intended to exercise an influence upon public opinion, preparatory to the meeting of Parliament. There was a time when these displays accomplished their object; but that time has gone by. With the repeal of the Corn-laws came a simultaneous repeal of the usefulness of Mr. Cobden and his coadjutors. It is possible that those leaders of the League who bewildered their minds in the misty mazes of the Peace controversy may have preserved in foreign countries some portion of the authority which they have lost in their own. It therefore becomes necessary, for the sake of English character abroad, that Englishmen should protest against the supposition that Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright represent public opinion amongst us. If, by any unlucky fatality, the Emperor of Russia should get it into his head that the sentiments of those gentlemen meet with any large approval or sympathy, the last slender hope of peace would be destroyed, and the war which Mr. Cobden so anxiously desires to prevent, would devastate all Europe. His policy, if fairly carried out, would reduce England to as low a level as Spain, and lead, at no distant day, to the utter extinction of that commerce which he seems to think the one thing needful, and to the destruction of those liberties of which he has been no undistinguished champion.

We confess ourselves unable to see the value of Mr. Cobden's arguments. He is of opinion that it is no part of the business of this nation to interfere in the quarrel between Russia and Turkey—because the upper classes of Russia imitate the manners of the English—because Turkey is a decaying country, which does not encourage commerce, and has no carriage-roads where four wheels can run—because, if Russia obtained possession of Constantinople, she could not turn the possession to any account, unless she became a great trading country, in which case she would of necessity be obliged to trade very largely with England—and because (which seems Mr. Cobden's principal reason) Turkey is Mahomedan. Ancillary to this line of argument, he asserts that we cannot interfere in such a quarrel with clean hands, because, however odious and unjust the aggression of Russia against Turkey may be, the British Government has been guilty of as great, if not greater, aggression in India. We are not to talk of protecting Turkey, "because we have knocked over Mahomedan dynasties like ninepins in India, and because we have shut up the Great Mogul in Delhi, although he once had 100,000,000 of subjects." We will put a parallel case to Mr. Cobden and those people—happily, we believe, few in numbers—who are likely to be swayed by his arguments. We will suppose Mr. Romanoff to have a large house, and to desire to obtain forcible possession of the house of his neighbour, Mr. Solymán, who is a man whose religion is different from that of his assailant, and is, moreover, old and paralytic, and not likely to live many years. But shall Mr. Romanoff be allowed first to plunder and then to murder Mr. Solymán? And shall a policeman, who detects Mr. Romanoff in the act of plunder, not interfere to prevent the consummation, because Mr. Solymán is a heretic, or an unbeliever; because, if left to himself, he cannot long survive; and because the policeman himself, at some previous period of his individual history, may not have been, in all respects, a model citizen? Is a man to be plundered with impunity, because he may offend our notions of the moral law—and may he be murdered because he is weak? Mr. Cobden, we are certain, would not for a moment support a doctrine so monstrous. The same morality which regulates the intercourse between man and man presides over the government of nations. Europe is one great Commonwealth, of which every king and ruler is a citizen. But Mr. Cobden attempts to meet this argument by asserting that he knows of no law or right by which this country can claim to act as the policeman of the nations, and to interfere in behalf of the oppressed. We can inform Mr. Cobden of the law that he ignores. It is the great and paramount law of necessity. We are bound, and France is bound, and Germany is bound, and we are all bound to interfere in such a case; because, if we do not interfere, we ignore the great morality of nations, and do our best to reduce Europe to the dominion of brute force—to make it a den of thieves or of wild beasts, in which force is the only ruler, and selfishness, in its most repulsive form, the only motive of action. Mr. Bright may imagine that, if the great Powers of Europe had never interfered, the dispute between Russia and Turkey would, in all probability, have been settled long ere this. There cannot be a doubt of it. The Russian armies would have been in Constantinople, and a fierce struggle of Mahomedan against Christian would have been raging in the fairest portions of the world—a struggle that would throw into the shade all the horrors of the most horrible war that ever desolated humanity. We have a proof of this in the treacherous and brutal massacre of Sinope—of which it is somewhat remarkable, and very suggestive, that Mr. Cobden does not choose to make the slightest mention.

We thank Heaven that Englishmen are not such men as Messrs. Cobden and Bright appear to wish them to be. If they were, this nation would be effectually relieved from the trouble of interference in the affairs of Europe. Our independence would be extinct, our power would be destroyed, our trade would be annihilated; we should be a seventh-rate people—a mere horde of miserable and spiritless slaves, the easy prey of the first despot who thought it worth his while to extend his dominion over us. Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright have no monopoly in their detestation of war; but few will wish to invade their monopoly of love for the principle of peace-at-all-prices. It is not the principle of men, but of sheep, and leads direct to the undisputed

supremacy of the wolf in the government of the world. War is as hateful to every sensible man as it can be to the orators of Manchester; but there are many things infinitely worse than war; and, among the chief of these, is the loss of honour.

But Mr. Cobden is right in one thing. He is grateful to the British Ministry for having done so much to preserve the peace of Europe. But the Ministry have only been so far successful because they had a large fleet at their disposal, and because they showed that, however loth to employ it, they were ready to do so, if arguments were unavailing to bring the aggressor to reason. We, also, are grateful to the Ministry, and are rejoiced to think that they have at their command such first-rate members of an effective Peace Society as Admirals Dundas and Sir Charles Napier.

## THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince Consort have received a succession of distinguished visitors at Windsor Castle during the past week. The company invited to witness the dramatic performance in the Rubens-room, on the 19th instant, separated on Saturday; and on Monday the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, and Viscount and Viscountess Hardinge, arrived at the Castle on a visit.

On Tuesday the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, and the Earl and Countess of Bessborough, were added to the Royal circle.

On Wednesday his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge arrived at the Castle on a visit. The Royal party was also increased by the addition of the Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter and Lady Mary Cecil, the Earl of Malmesbury, the Earl and Countess Bruce, Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston, Viscount Drumlanrig, and the Speaker and Mrs. Shaw Lefevre.

On Thursday a dramatic performance took place in the Rubens-room. The pieces selected for representation were—a comedy, in one act, by Mr. T. J. Serle, entitled "Tender Precautions;" and a farce, in one act, by Mr. Charles Dance, called, "The Bengal Tiger." The principal characters in both pieces were filled by Mr. and Mrs. A. Wigan, Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, Mr. Howe, Mr. Robson, Mr. Addison; Miss Murray, and Miss Marston. In the course of Thursday her Majesty honoured Mr. J. E. Jones with a sitting for a bust, about to be executed, by her Majesty's command for Mr. William Dargan.

Her Majesty and the Royal children have taken their accustomed riding and walking exercise daily, and the Prince Consort has generally enjoyed the sport of shooting in the Royal preserves.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent has dined at the Castle several times during the past week.

Viscount Torrington has succeeded Colonel Wylde in attendance on Prince Albert.

The Duke and Duchess of Bedford have arrived in Belgrave-square, from Windsor Castle. His Grace dined with Sir Charles and Lady Mary Wood, on Wednesday.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter have been entertaining a distinguished party of the aristocracy at Burghley. The noble Marquis and her Ladyship came to town on Wednesday, having been honoured with her Majesty's commands to pass a couple of days at Windsor Castle.

The Earl Granville, as Lord President, will give his annual official banquet to the great Officers of State and the Clerks of Council this evening (Saturday), when the roll of Sheriffs for the ensuing year will be arranged.

The Countess of Strathmore has left the St. George's Hotel, to join the circle visiting the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke, at Wimpele Hall.

The Earl and Countess of Verulam have been dispensing their hospitality to a large and distinguished circle, during the past week, at Gorbamby.

The Earl of Eglinton and youthful family have arrived in St. James's-square, from Eglinton Castle.

Viscount and Viscountess Combermere arrived in Belgrave-square, on Monday, from Combermere Abbey.

Viscount and Viscountess Newport are entertaining a select party at his Lordship's hunting seat, at Melton Mowbray.

Lord and Lady John Russell received at dinner, on Wednesday, his Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewski, his Excellency the Austrian Minister and the Countess Colloredo, the Count Stralitzky, his Excellency the Sardinian Minister, the Duchess of Inverness, Lord Castlereagh, M.P., Miss Russell, Hon. Miss Lister, Hon. G. Byng, Mr. R. Grey. Her Ladyship subsequently had an evening party, which was attended by a select circle.

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli and Mrs. Disraeli have arrived at Grosvenor-gate for the season.

The Hon. Charles A. Murray, her Majesty's Minister at Berne, arrived in town yesterday from Switzerland.

## CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &amp;c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. W. R. Brown to Cottred, with Broadfield annexed; Rev. J. Crofts to Little Tey, Essex; Rev. J. W. Doran to Beeston St. Lawrence, Norfolk; Rev. C. Jenkin to Herringwell, near Mildenhall; Rev. W. L. Jeffray to Aldford, near Chester; Rev. H. Price to Killybegli, Glamorganshire; Rev. C. J. Vernon to Grafton Underwood, Northamptonshire; Rev. E. Whitehead to Godmanstone, Dorchester. *Vicarages*: The Rev. J. W. Hull to North Muskham, Nottinghamshire; Rev. G. K. Weston to Toller Framtrum, with Urmford Eagle annexed, Dorsetshire. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. W. M. Beresford to Walton, near Aylesbury; Rev. W. Burns to Grimstargh, Lancashire; Rev. J. R. Dakers to Hawick; Rev. W. Doyle to St. Stephen's, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Lancashire; Rev. J. Graham to St. Chad's, Lichfield; Rev. R. Hill to Mansell Lacy, Herefordshire; Rev. W. Hulme to Corfe, near Taunton; Rev. W. Fennel to Christ Church, Barnet; Rev. G. D. Thompson to Queenborough; Rev. J. M. Valpy to St. John's, Nottingham. *Perpetual Curacies*: The Rev. J. M. Hawker to Earley, Berks; Rev. W. Hulme to Corfe, Somerset.

TESTIMONIAL.—The parishioners of Swaffham Bulbeck have presented the Rev. L. Jenyns, on his resigning that living, with a valuable collection of divinity books.

CANONS OF ST. PAUL'S.—The Minor Canons of St. Paul's have published a protest against the course recently pursued by two of their brethren—namely, the Rev. R. C. Packman and the Rev. James Lupton—in the appeal they have recently made to the Bishop of London, as visitor of the Cathedral.

NEW CHURCH, KENNINGTON-COMMON.—A large and handsome church has been for some time past in course of erection in Lormersquare, a few yards north of Kennington-common, and will be ready for consecration in a few weeks. It is cruciform in shape; and, according to ecclesiastical nomenclature, in the Gothic style of architecture of the Middle-pointed period.

PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE CHURCHES IN THE CITY.—At the meeting of the board of guardians of the Holborn Union, on Monday, an address was agreed upon to the Lord Bishop of London, on the spiritual destitution existing in the union, and stating that the population of the parishes comprising the union to be 46,571; and with very inadequate amount of church accommodation. The guardians pray his Lordship, in the event of the City churches being removed, to take the state of their union into his best consideration.

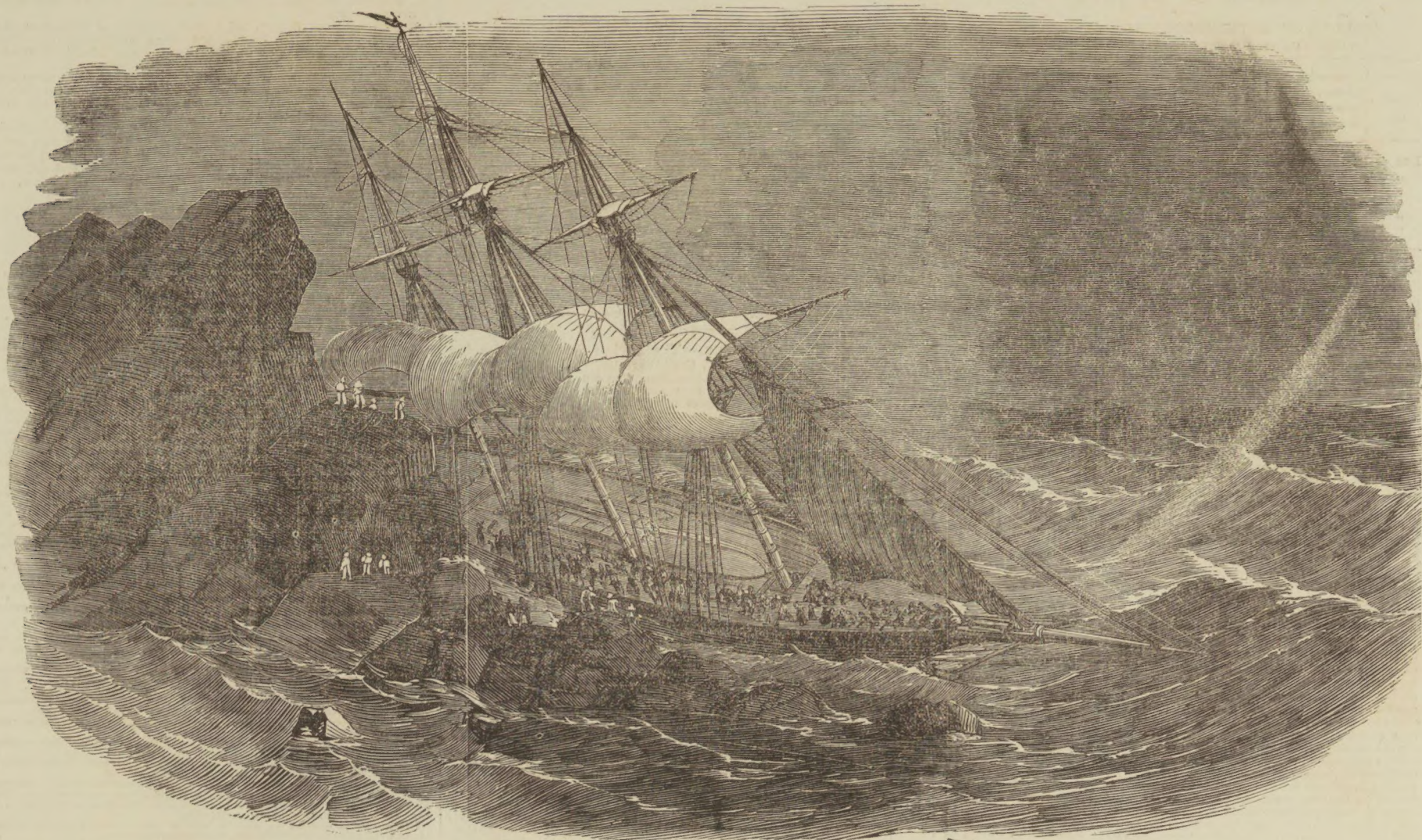
The Address in the House of Commons will be moved by Viscount Castlereagh, and seconded by Mr. Thomson Hankey, jun.

THE BOURBON FAMILY.—We are requested to state, on positive authority, that the Princes of the Bourbon family have no accredited organ in the press of France, or of any other country; and that the opinions which have been attributed to them on the important questions now agitated in Europe are as unfounded as the hopes they have been supposed to entertain.—*Times*.

THE ORLEANS FAMILY.—The following letter has been addressed to the editor of the *Morning Herald*:—"Sir, A letter purporting to have been addressed by her Royal Highness the Duchess of Orleans to the Duke of Nemours appeared in your columns of the 16th instant, and as the authenticity of that letter has obtained some credit, I received his Royal Highness's commands to acquaint you that such a letter has never existed. I am, sir, your obedient servant, T. GAUTHIER, Claremont, Jan. 21, 1854." A letter declaring the letter published by the *Morning Herald* to be fictitious has also been addressed to that journal on behalf of the Duchess of Orleans.

EAST INDIA TROOPS.—To-day 150 men, of the East India Company's service embarked at Tilbury Fort, from Warley Barracks, on board the ship *Lesmoine*; and on Tuesday next the same number of men will also embark on board the ship *Arkabur* for conveyance to Malacca.





LOSS OF "THE TAYLEUR" AUSTRALIAN PACKET-SHIP, OFF LAMBAY ISLAND.

## WRECK OF THE "TAYLEUR," IN DUBLIN BAY.

In our publication of November 26 we gave an engraving and a description of the new iron clipper-ship *Tayleur*, then recently launched, the largest sailing merchantman ever built in this country. The vessel was designed expressly for the Australian passenger trade, to form one of Messrs. Pilkington and Wilson's celebrated White Star Line. She was 2500 tons new measurement, and was capable of carrying 4000 tons of cargo. No expense had been spared in her construction and fitting up, and the general opinion was that she would prove a fast and safe sailer. Had justice been done to so fine a vessel, these expectations would, probably, have been realised; but, if the prevailing statements are correct, the ship was undermanned when she left Liverpool, and to that fatal error the sad catastrophe we have this week to relate, must be mainly attributed.

The *Tayleur* sailed from Liverpool for Melbourne, at five minutes to twelve, on Thursday, with 652 persons on board, including the crew, and about eight p.m. was off Holyhead. After nightfall it began to blow strongly, and during all next day the ship struggled with an adverse wind. By that time the more intelligent of the passengers became alarmed on account of the evident incompetence of the crew to manage the vessel. A number of the men were Chinese and Lascars, who hardly knew the English language, and were consequently unable to understand the orders given by the captain. Throughout the whole of Friday the weather was thick and hazy also, so that no observations could be taken. Early on Saturday morning the ship was under full sail, for which the captain was blamed by some of the passengers, who remarked that the crew could not take in so much sail on an emergency. As the day wore on the weather became boisterous, and about ten a.m. land was in sight. In order to avoid any possible danger the ship's course was altered about half-past eleven, and she was hauled up two points to windward. It was whilst on this course, and in about half an hour after, that the man in the bows on the look-out cried out "Breakers on the starboard bow." It was then blowing heavily, and a high sea running. The helm was put hard to starboard, the sheets of the head-sails let go, and every means taken to bring the ship round on a course free from the threatened danger. It was then impossible to see a cable's length from the vessel, and in about twenty minutes more she struck with great violence on a reef of rocks running out from a creek right to the eastward bluff of Lambay Island. The shock was tremendous, shaking the vessel from stem to stern. She rose on the next wave, and drove in rather broadside on; and when she struck again still heaving, the sea made a clean breach over her amidships, setting everything on deck afloat. After two or three more shocks, the ship began to sink by the stern, and the scene of confusion and dismay that ensued baffles all description; the passengers rushing up the hatchway—husbands carrying their children, and women lying prostrate on the deck with their infants, screaming and imploring help. The ship's quarter drifted on towards one side of the creek; and one of the cook's assistants (a black man), two Lascars, and three seamen, contrived to jump across on shore, and thus saved their lives. A rope and a spar were afterwards got across, and by this means a number of lives were rescued, chiefly through the activity and devoted gallantry of two or three young men, passengers, whose exertions in saving the lives of their fellow-sufferers deserve the highest praise. Those who attempted to escape by the bows of the vessel all, or nearly, met a miserable fate: the moment they fell into the water, the waves caught them, and dashed them violently against the rocks; and the survivors on shore could perceive the unfortunate creatures, with their heads bruised and cut open, struggling amidst the waves, and one by one sinking under them. A first-cabin passenger, who managed to get on shore, gives the following account of the sad scenes which followed:—

Among some of the earliest of the females who attempted to get on shore were some young Irishwomen. Most of them lost their hold of the rope, and fell into the sea. The doctor of the ship, a most noble fellow, struggled hard to save his wife and child, he had succeeded in getting about half-way to the shore on a rope—holding his child by its clothes in his teeth—but just then the ship lurched outwards, by which the rope was dragged from the hands of those who held it on the lower rocks, and was held only by those above, thus running him high in the air, so that the brave fellow could not drop on the rock. Word was now given to lower the rope gently; but those who held it above let it go by the run, and the poor fellow, with his child, was buried in the waves; but in a short time he again appeared above the water, manfully battling with the waves and the portions of the wreck that now floated about him. He at length swam to a ladder hanging by a rope alongside the ship, and got upon it. After he had been there a minute or two his wife floated close to him; he immediately took hold of her, and dragged her on the ladder, tenderly parted the hair from her face, and appeared to be encouraging her; but in another minute she was washed from his hold, and sank almost immediately. He then got up again into the ship and tried to get his wife on shore, but they both perished. He deserved a better fate! The scene was now most truly awful. The most desperate struggles for life were made by the wretched passengers, great numbers of women jumped overboard, in the vain hope of reaching land; and the ropes were crowded by hundreds who, in their eagerness, terror, and confusion, frustrated each other's efforts for self-preservation. Many of the females would get half way, and then become unable to proceed further; and, after clinging to the rope for a short

time, would be forced from their hold by those who came after them. Three women only, out of 200, were saved. One of those had got part of the way across when her legs fell, and she hung some time by her two hands over the foaming waves; her husband then came on the rope, and managed to assist her to the shore. Two men came on shore with children tied to their backs; but of the whole who fell into the water not above five were saved. I saw one fine girl, who, after falling from the rope, managed to get hold of another one, which was hanging from the side of the ship, and which she held on to for more than a quarter of an hour, the sea every moment dashing her against the side of the ship; but it was impossible for us to lend her any assistance. Some one got a spar out, by which several got on shore; but it soon broke; and now might be seen hundreds hanging to the bulwarks of the ship, each struggling to get on shore. I saw one young woman hanging on the middle of the rope for some time by her two hands, but those pushing to get on shore soon sent her to her doom. The ship's stern now began to sink; the ship made a lurch, and all the ropes were snapped asunder. The scene now was most harrowing. Every wave washed off scores at a time—we could see them struggle for a moment, then, tossing their arms, sink to rise no more. At length the whole of the ship sunk under water. There was a fearful struggle for a moment, and all, except two who were in the rigging, were gone. The coast-guard, who had been apprised of the wreck, now came up; but all they could do was to attempt to save the two who were in the rigging. They managed to get a line to one of them, by fastening two lines, at the end of each of which was a piece of wood, to a single line, and guiding it from the rock to the spot where the poor fellow was, so that he could reach it. They then dragged him ashore. There was one fine young man left on the top, but they could not reach him, and when he saw them going away his cries were heartrending. About two o'clock the next morning the coast-guard managed to reach him, after he had been in the top fourteen hours; you may fancy the poor fellow's joy at his deliverance. We found we were on Lambay Island, three miles from Rush, and about thirteen miles from Dublin.

Out of the entire number of persons on board only 282 individuals were saved, so that 370 lives must have been lost altogether. News of the wreck having been taken to Dublin, the steam-packet *Prince* was sent to Lambay Island on Sunday afternoon; and next morning the whole of the passengers and crew who had been rescued were taken to Dublin, where comfortable accommodation was provided for them.

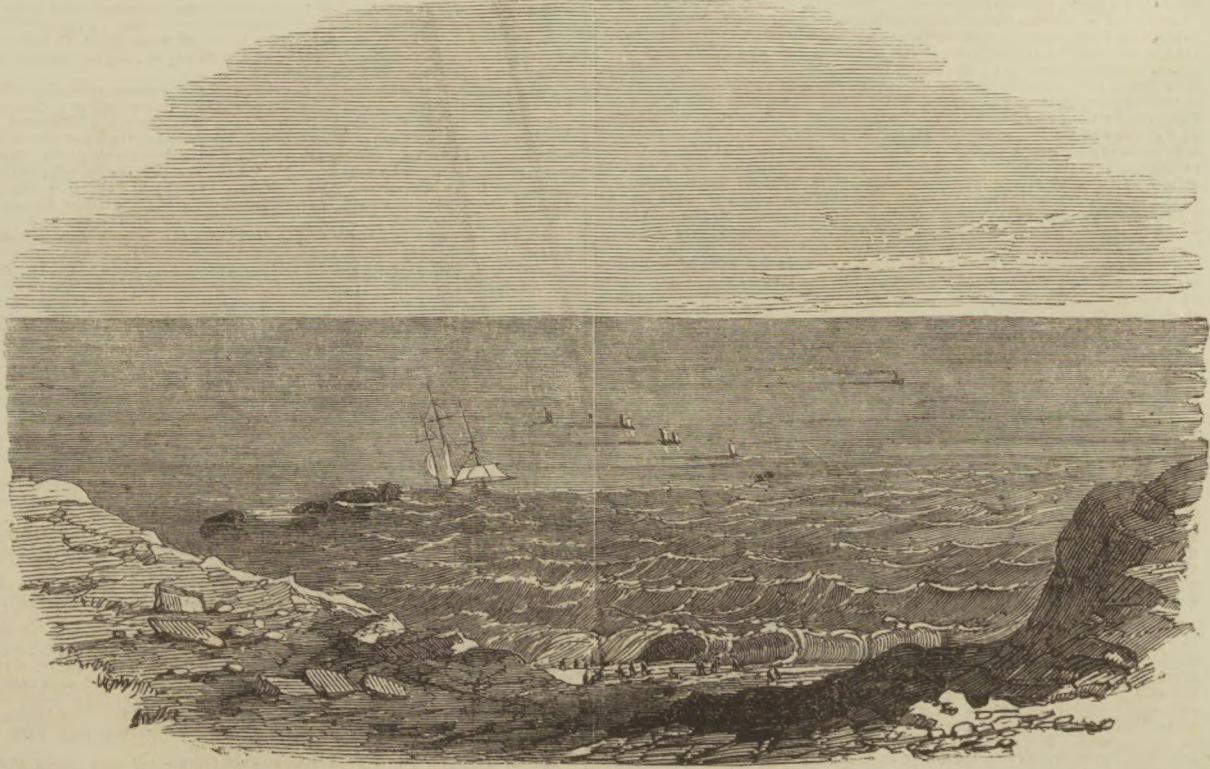
Later accounts state that nearly 50 bodies have been found, and that an inquest is to be held. The *Liverpool Mercury* adds the following statement:—

We learn that a letter has been received from Captain Noble, but it conveys nothing like an accurate account of the cause of the disaster. It appears that he had two sails blown away in the gale of Friday and Sa-

turday morning. His rudder—a patent one—is complained of as difficult to work, and his compasses were wrong. This is the sum of his statement. It appears that there were a little over 100 females on board, only three of whom are said to have been saved. The vessel still holds together; and, as there is a large quantity of timber on board, she may continue to do so.

A subscription list has been opened in Liverpool in aid of the unfortunate sufferers by this deplorable wreck. It is headed by Mr. Charles Moore, one of the owners, with £150, followed by the names of Messrs. Pilkington and Wilson (the Liverpool agents), £100; Mr. James Baines (of the Black Ball line of Australian packets), £100, &c.

THE LOSS OF THE "SAN FRANCISCO."—The following abridged narrative of this disaster was supplied by Lieutenant Winder, U.S. Artillery, one of the passengers saved:—"We sailed from New York on the 21st of December last. The *San Francisco* had on board about 500 troops, and 16 officers with their families, together with a crew, amounting in all to about 750 souls. On the night of the 23rd of December the vessel encountered a severe gale—we were then in the Gulf Stream. The vessel worked nobly until about three o'clock of that day, when the engineer reported the piston of the pump to be broken. The wind was then blowing hard from the north-west. In a short time afterwards, the heavy sea which was running swept away all the boats. The ship was in the most imminent danger, and the greatest alarm prevailed. The passengers were then formed into gangs to pump the vessel, and all laboured to the utmost extent of their ability, and the ship was kept afloat. On the 28th, the barque *Killy*, of Boston, hove in sight, and lay-to, and took off about 100 of the passengers. She was chartered to the nearest American port. On the 30th, we fell in with the British ship *Three Bells*, bound for New York. She lay by us, but the sea ran so high, that we were then unable to communicate for several hours. On the 3rd of January the *Antarctic*, Captain Stouffer, from New York to Liverpool hove in sight. She immediately bore down upon us, and when the weather moderated, the passengers and others on the wreck were embarked. The embarkation continued on the 3rd and 4th instant, and on the morning of the 5th, all being completed, the two vessels set sail and left the wreck. The *Three Bells* sailed for the nearest American port, and the *Antarctic* for Liverpool. When the *Antarctic* left, the *San Francisco* was fast settling down. Her captain was the last man to leave her, and had to lower himself down by a rope from the bowsprit. The *Antarctic* on Monday arrived all safe at the Mersey; and the representative of the United States Government chartered the steamer *America*, one of the Royal Mail steamers, to convey the troops rescued to Boston. The *San Francisco* was an entirely new and very fine steamer, capable of being used for war if required.



WRECK OF "THE TAYLEUR," SEEN FROM THE MAINLAND, ON SUNDAY.



## METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,  
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JAN. 26.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
Dec. 20	29.952	52.1	31.7	43.5	+ 6.8	91	E.S.E.	0.09
" 21	30.278	51.0	39.0	45.2	+ 8.5	88	S. & S.E.	0.00
" 22	30.106	50.9	32.0	39.7	+ 2.9	91	..	0.00
" 23	30.103	51.1	35.7	43.0	+ 6.1	88	..	0.01
" 24	29.724	46.9	38.6	42.7	+ 5.7	92	..	0.06
" 25	30.144	48.9	29.5	38.8	+ 1.7	83	..	0.00
" 26	30.347	51.4	33.5	43.5	+ 6.3	76	..	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer increased from 29.98 inches at the beginning of the week to 30.32 inches by the morning of the 21st; decreased to 29.58 inches by the afternoon of the 24th; increased to 30.17 inches by the morning of the 25th; decreased to 30.12 inches by the evening of the same day; and increased to 30.47 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.072 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied from 14° to 84° above the average value. During the time they have been above their averages—viz., on every day from the 7th to the 26th (except on the 19th, when it was slightly below)—the average excess was 4.3° daily.

The mean temperature of the week was 42.3°, being 5.4° above the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 22.6°, being the difference between the highest reading on the 20th, and the lowest on the 25th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 16°. The greatest was 20.4° on the 29th, and the least 8.2° on the 24th.

Rain fell on two days during the week to the depth of 0.07 inch (nearly one-tenth of an inch).

The weather on the 20th and 24th, was dull, and the sky almost wholly overcast; on the 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 26th, very fine, and the sky almost cloudless; and the 25th was fine during the former part of the day, but overcast and damp during the evening.

Lewisham, Jan. 27, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

**HEALTH OF LONDON.**—In the week ending January 21, the births of 1700 children were registered: 845 were males, and 855 were females. The average number in the corresponding week of nine years was 728 boys and 723 girls. The number of deaths registered in the week was 1195; in the preceding week it was 1492. This favourable change has been caused by the milder atmosphere, as shown in our weekly Meteorological Table. In the week ending Dec. 29, and in the week ending Jan. 5, the mean temperatures were 31° and 29° respectively; in the week ending Jan. 19, and in this week, the mean temperatures were 40° and 42° respectively; and this increase of about 10° has been followed by a decrease of mortality of nearly 300 weekly. The average numbers of deaths caused by different diseases were only those of their average. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, exclusive of phthisis and hooping-cough, amount to 250, and those produced by zymotic complaints are about the same number: of these, no less than 72 deaths were caused by hooping-cough (exceeding its corrected average by 27). Fatal cases of bronchitis have declined from 384 in the previous week to 133 in the last; pneumonia, from 114 to 75. The former complaint is less, but is still above the average; the latter is now below it. Bronchitis existing in the chronic state in aged persons, and stimulated to increased activity by a fall in the temperature, continues its course when the atmosphere has become warmer; the natural powers in advanced life are nearly exhausted, and its vitality less rapidly declines. A different effect is observed in young persons liable to pneumonia and other acute diseases from exposure to cold: when the cause is removed, its fatal consequences almost immediately cease.

## CORPORATION INQUIRY.

The Royal Commission continues its inquiry into the working of the Corporation. Among the witnesses examined this week was Mr. D. W. Harvey, who gave some interesting evidence regarding the City police, of which he has been commissioner since 1839. He is not in favour of an incorporation of the City police in the general metropolitan system. If there is to be only one police system for the entire metropolis, he contends that its real heart and centre ought to be in the City, and not in Scotland-yard. Where one detective case is brought before the Metropolitan police, there are ten such cases brought before the City police. Last year the City police force consisted of 579 men, at an annual cost of £44,341, or £74 17s. 14d. per man. The metropolitan police consisted of 5,492 men, at an annual cost of £391,825, or £71 6s. 11d. per man. The area of the City is a mile and a half; that of the metropolitan districts 700 square miles. But the mere size of the City is no fair criterion of the amount of work performed by the police, nor is the number of inhabitants a proper test. From careful observation, it has been ascertained that although the residents in the City number only 128,851, the number of persons who visit it daily for business purposes is 316,000, making a total of 444,851. After giving a number of statements to show the greater efficiency of the City police, he wound up by remarking that no practical inconvenience results to the metropolis from the existence of two police jurisdictions within it, as on all great public emergencies, the two separate forces act in conjunction.

**REFORMATORY ESTABLISHMENT.**—At the last Quarter Sessions for the county of Somerset, held at Wells, the grand jury, on bringing in their last presentment, handed a petition to the honourable chairman, Mr. W. Miles, M.P., pointing out the necessity for penal reformatory schools for the treatment and education of youthful criminals, and requested the honourable chairman to present it to the House of Commons on the meeting of Parliament. Mr. Miles, after reading the petition, said that he entirely concurred in the prayer of it, and would be most happy to present it to the House. It urged "that the common gaols and houses of correction do not generally provide suitable means for the educational or corrective treatment of young children, who ought, when guilty of crime, to be treated in a manner different from the ordinary punishment of adult criminals; and that penal reformatory establishments ought to be founded and supported entirely at the public cost, and to be under the care and inspection of Government."

**THE AUSTRALIAN EXPLORING EXPEDITION.**—A general meeting of the Fellows and friends of the Royal Geographical Society was held on Monday night, in the Horticultural Society's Rooms; the Right Hon. the Earl of Ellesmere, the president of the society, in the chair. The secretary read a paper in connection with the North Australian Expedition. It appeared that some time since a committee of the Royal Geographical Society had taken into consideration the propriety of an expedition being sent to explore Australia, from Perth to Shark Bay and Cambridge Gulf, across the great interior of the continent to the Darling or the Murray. The result of the deliberations of the committee recommended to the council an exploration from the mouth of the Victoria to that of the Albert, on the Gulf of Carpentaria—the means of transport to be bullocks and drays and horses, procured at Moreton Bay, where the expedition was to be organised. Accordingly, a letter was sent to the Colonial Office, on Nov. 26, recommending the adoption of the expedition, at a cost of £20,000, and the submission of an estimate to Parliament for a grant for that purpose. Subsequently a deputation was requested to wait on the Duke of Newcastle, at the Colonial Office, which they did on the 18th inst., when his Grace was so kind as to state that, on account of the growing importance of the colony, the Government had determined to assume the whole responsibility of the expedition, and that the offer of the command would be made to Captain Stokes. In the meanwhile, Capt. Sturt and Mr. Eyre have kindly sent in estimates and memoranda for the benefit of the expedition.

**CITY SEWERAGE WORKS.**—During the year 1853 sewers were constructed in twenty-five different places, their aggregate length being about 4,951 feet. Nearly the whole of those sewers were in substitution of ancient shallow sewers, originally intended for surface drainage only, but temporarily used for house drainage until more efficient sewers could be built. The ancient sewers in London-wall (formerly the old City Ditch), those under the houses on the south side of Hosier lane and in John-street, Minories, Coleman-street, and other places, have been abandoned and filled up, and the house drains entering them have been connected with the new and deeper sewers in the streets. The length of ancient sewers abandoned and filled up exceeds that of the new sewers constructed; and the total length of existing sewers within the City remains, therefore, about the same as last year, or 49 1-3 miles. In the course of the year an extensive reparation of that portion of the Fleet sewer which is south of Fleet-bridge was commenced. Nearly every gully within the City has been re-trapped with traps of improved construction within the last five years.

**THE CITY POLICE.**—Chief Commissioner Harvey has declined the present of a piece of plate, designed as a testimonial by the members of the force over which he presides. He says:—"If I was about to leave a service in which I have laboured incessantly well-nigh fifteen years, the toil and anxiety of which are greatly soothed by the remembrance of my successful efforts to obtain for all the members of the force a well-earned increase of pay, the proposed memorial would be most acceptable to my feelings. But when I consider that it may be my painful duty to administer with severity or instantly to dismiss some members who have contributed to the proposed testimonial, I cannot consent to encounter the painful impression which such a necessity might provoke."

## NATIONAL SPORTS.

## OUNDEL STEEPLE-CHASES—MONDAY.

Farmers' and Tradesmen's—Harry, 1. Ben Lomond, 2. Handicap Sweepstakes.—Ploughboy, 1. Topsy, 2. Selling Race.—S. Ashing Painter, 1. Nom de Guerre, 2.

## TUESDAY.

Free Handicap.—Nom de Guerre, 1. Old Rake, 2. Foxhunters' Stakes.—The Beaver, 1. Harry, 2. Fairplay.—The Linnet, 1. Ivanhoe, 2.

The weather on Monday was mild and sunny, but the following day was cold and wet. Altogether the meeting was most creditably conducted.

## WESTBURY STEEPLE-CHASES—WEDNESDAY.

Wiltshire Handicap.—Diana, 1. Sir Philip, 2. Westbury Free Handicap.—Countess, 1. Chester, 2. Scramble.—Iodine, 1. Axa, 2.

## LATEST BETTING AT TATTERSALL'S ON THURSDAY EVENING.

LIVERPOOL STEEPLE-CHASE.		
9 to 1 agst Miss Mowbray (tk 10 to 1)	20 to 1 agst Lord George (ed)	
CHESTER CUP.		
20 to 1 agst Newminster (tk and off)	40 to 1 agst Nabob (t)	50 to 1 agst Jack Frost (t)
	50 to 1 — Llanforda (t)	50 to 1 — Star of Surrey
DERBY.		
5 to 1 agst Autocrat (tk 11 to 2).	—Scarcely any betting.	

**SPORTING EXTRAORDINARY.**—The Earl of Stamford, with his friends, Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. Cecil Forester, Hon. A. Wrottesley, Hon. Spencer Lyttelton, Mr. J. Hamilton, Captain Walsh, Mr. H. Milbank, Mr. E. L. Gatacre, Captain Inge, and the Rev. Roby Burgin, killed in seven days, at Bradgate, Leicestershire, 3817 head of game, viz.:—Jan. 10, first day: 7 guns: 172 pheasants, 160 hares, 15 rabbits—total, 347. Jan. 11, second day, 9 guns: 195 pheasants, 2 woodcocks, 1 wild fowl, 73 hares, 288 rabbits—total, 559. Jan. 12, third day, 10 guns: 115 pheasants, 2 woodcocks, 4 wild fowl, 54 hares, 372 rabbits—total, 547. Jan. 13, fourth day, ten guns: 151 pheasants, 1 woodcock, 1 wild fowl, 134 hares, 246 rabbits—total, 523. Jan. 14, fifth day, ten guns: 5 partridges, 2 pheasants, 1085 rabbits—total, 1092. Jan. 16th, sixth day: 9 partridges, 6 partridges, 23 pheasants, 1 woodcock, 1 snipe, 2 wild fowls, 4 hares, 596 rabbits—total, 663. Jan. 17, seventh day, 5 guns: 20 pheasants, 1 woodcock, 13 hares, 72 rabbits—total, 166. Grand total, 3817.

**LONGEVITY.**—On the 19th inst. died Mr. John Banks the Elder, the oldest inhabitant of Seaford, Sussex, at the patriarchal age of ninety-nine years. He was father of the corporation of the town and port, having been a freeman of Seaford for sixty years, and has left about 150 descendants: viz. children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren—his eldest son being in his seventy-eighth year. The deceased was a remarkably hale old man, and retained his faculties to the last. His remains were, on Wednesday last, carried to the grave by four of his grandsons, the pall-bears being great-grandsons of the deceased.

**THE WAGES QUESTION IN THE WEST.**—The agitation in favour of an increase in the amount of wages, consequent on the present high prices of provisions, is not yet settled in the west of England. At Sturminster Marshal the whole of the agricultural labourers struck for an advance a few days since. The farmers met together, and, after a consultation, agreed to give the men an additional 1s. a week. In the parish of Piddletown, in Somerset, the attempt to obtain an advance by the agricultural labourers assumed a most riotous character. About forty men went in a body to Waterson farm, in the occupation of Mr. James Harding, and endeavoured to get the labourers there to join them in making a demand on that person for an increase of wages. They failed, however, to disaffect the men towards their master, one of them declaring that he was perfectly satisfied with his wages. In spite of this they went to Mr. Harding, and demanded that he should pay his men as another farmer named Geage had promised to do, namely, to give them 12s. per week. Mr. Harding refused to comply with their request, and only got rid of the men by threatening to summon them. Warrants were subsequently issued against some of the principal offenders, and one of them was apprehended and committed for trial. At Exeter the Town-council have resolved on advancing the pay of the policemen 2s. per week—from 18s. to 20s. This arrangement, however, is only intended to last during the continuance of the present high prices of provisions.

**THE SWINEY BEQUEST.**—At a joint meeting of the members of the College of Physicians and of the Society of Arts, held in the rooms of the latter body, on Monday afternoon, the prize of £100, contained in a silver goblet of the same value, was adjudged to the work entitled, "The Commercial Law of the World," by Mr. Leone Levi.

## MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The Consol Market has been subject to numerous and extensive fluctuations during the present week, owing to the entrance of the combined fleets into the Black Sea. A fall of fully one per cent has taken place, and which has brought forward a large number of small buyers of stock; but the sales for a further decline in the quotations have completely counterbalanced any result from the purchases on account of the public. We may observe, however, that money has continued abundant, and, on the whole, cheap. First-class bills, of short dates, have been readily discounted in Lombard-street at 5½ to 5¾ per cent.

The continuous arrivals of bullion from Australia and the United States have had very little effect upon Consols, or, indeed, any other securities; but it is tolerably clear—looking at the immense quantities of bread-stuffs which have been purchased, and are still likely to be required for consumption in that country, that we shall shortly see a decided alteration in the exchanges; in other words, that we shall be compelled to ship gold largely by way of balances. The imports of gold and silver from all quarters are little short of £700,000, whilst the exports have been about £300,000, mostly to France and the East. Bar silver has sold at 5s. 1½d. per ounce—being a rise of an eighth. The last quotation for dollars was 4s. 11½d. per ounce.

On Monday Consols were heavy and drooping. Very little business was done, either for Money or Time. The Three per Cent Reduced fluctuated between 90½ and 90¾; the Three per Cent Consols, 90½ to 90¾; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent, 91½ to 92½. Long Annuities, 1860, were 4 15-16; India Bonds, par, to 4s. premium; and Exchequer Bills 6s. to 10s. premium. Bank Stock was quoted at 21½; South Sea Stock, 115; Ditto, Old Annuities, 100½. The market on Tuesday was heavy. The Three per Cent Reduced were 90½ to 89½; the Three per Cent Consols, 90½ to 90¾; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent, 91½ to 91¾. In the value of India Bonds or Exchequer Bills no change took place. The market was somewhat firmer on Wednesday, on which day the Three per Cent were 90½ to 91, closing at 90. The New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent opened at 91½, and left off at 91½. Exchequer Bills sold at 7s. to 10s. premium. Bank Stock marked 21½. The transactions on Thursday were devoid of interest; nevertheless, prices were rather firmer. The Three per Cent closed at 90½. The T. ree per Cent Reduced were done at 90½ to 91; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent, 91½ to 92. Exchequer Bills advanced 1s., or to 8s. and 11s. premium.

All Foreign Bonds have sold heavily, and the general quotations have not been supported. The following are the leading prices:—Brazilian Five per Cent, 96; Chilean Six per Cent, 102; Granada Deferred, 62½; Mexican Three per Cent, 73; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 66½; Portuguese Four per Cent, 37; Russian Five per Cent, 107; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 88; Sardinian Five per Cent, 86½; Spanish Three per Cent, 40; Ditto, New Deferred, 19; Ditto, Passive, 4; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 88; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cent, 60; Dutch Four per Cent, 91.

Miscellaneous Shares have met a dull market; in prices, however, no material change has taken place. Australasian Joint-Stock Bank have marked 75½; Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, 1½; Commercial of London, 33½; London Chartered of Australia, 14½; London Joint Stock, 26½; Oriental, 44; South Australia, 40 to 39; Union of Australia, 70½ to 71½; Australian Agricultural have been done at 35½ to 37½; Australian Royal Mail, 3½; Crystal Palace, 7½ to 6; Do., New, 4½; London Docks, 105½ ex div.; Netherlands Land, 3; North British Australasian, 5 to 1; Portland Iron Company, 2½ ex div.; Scottish Australian Investment, 2½; Van Diemen's Land, 12½. East London Waterworks have been 133; Grand Junction, 73; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89½; West Middlesex, 11½ ex div.; Hungerford Bridge, 12; Waterloo, 5½; Vauxhall, 22. Insurance Companies have sold as follows: Albion, 95; Argus, 23; Crutty, 125; Globe, 141 to 140 ex div.; Guardian, 69½; Imperial Fire, 375; Ditto, Life, 20; Pelican, 45; Phoenix, 186; Rock, 7½; Royal Exchange, 240; Sun Life, 65; Universal, 45½. General Screw Steam Shipping Company's Shares have been 14; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 61½ to 62.

Railway Shares have been very dull and drooping. The supply of Scrip in the market has increased. The following were the official closing prices on Thursday:

**ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.**—Aberdeen, 19½; Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Junction, 4½; Caledonian, 61½; East Anglian, 4½; Eastern Counties, 12½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 61; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 21; Great Northern, 81½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 98; Great Western, 80½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 62; London and Blackwall, 7½; London and Brighton, 101; Ditto, Fifth, 11½; London and South-Western, 77; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 21½; Midland, 61½; Norfolk, 44½; North British, 30½; North Staffordshire, 11½; Scottish Central, 90; South-Eastern, 59; South Wales, 3; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 62; Ditto, Extension, 10½; York and North Midland, 46½.

**Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.**—Gloucester and Dean Forest, 30½; Hull and Selby, Half Shares, 54; Wear Valley, 30½.

**PREFERENCE SHARES.**—Great Northern Five per Cent, 118; Ditto, Re-

deemable at 10 per Cent prem., 109½; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 10; Midland, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 4½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 99.

**FOREIGN.**—East Indian, 23½; Great Central of France, 6; Luxembourg, 8½; Northern of France, 30½; Paris and Lyons, 29½; Paris and Strasbourg, 30; Royal Danish, 11½; Sambre and Meuse, 8; West Flanders, 8½; Western of France, 13.

Mining Shares have been exceedingly dull. Prices have given way. On Thursday, Agua Fria were 1½; Badin, ½; British Australian Gold, ½; St. John del Rey, 2½; Colonial Gold, 1½; Copago, 13; Mariquita, ½; Nozaveau Monde, 1½; West Mariposa, ½.

## Friday Afternoon.

There has been more doing in the Consol Market to-day, and prices have been on the advance. The Three per Cent are 91½ to 91¾; the Three per Cent Reduced, 91½; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent, 92 to 92½. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are firm.

## THE MARKETS.

**CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).**—The supply of English wheat on offer in to-day's market was limited, and in very middling condition. For most kinds we had a steady, but not brisk, inquiry at Monday's currency. The imports of foreign wheat are over 9000 quarters, chiefly from the United States. A fair average business was transacted in all descriptions, and previous rates were well supported. Floating cargoes were firm, and fine Maricanopol was worth 60s. to 62s. per quarter. Although the show of barley was very moderate, that article sold slowly, on former terms. Malt met a dull sale, but no decline took place in prices. The arrivals being very limited, the oat trade was firm, and the quotations had an upward tendency. Beans and peas were dull but flour was firm, and quite as dear as on Monday.

**ARRIVALS.**—English wheat, 1510; barley, 2400; malt, 4200; oats, 1700; flour, 2100; Irish barley, 300; oats, 40. Foreign wheat, 6950; barley, 400; oats, 1700; flour, 3990 sacks, 10,150 barrels.

**English.**—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 70s. to 85s.; ditto, white, 74s. to 93s.; Norfolk and Lincoln, red, 68s. to 83s.; ditto, white, —s. to —s.; rye, 50s. to 52s.; grinding barley, 37s. to 42s.; distilling ditto, 41s. to 44s.; malting, ditto, 44s. to 48s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 68s. to 72s.; brown ditto, 55s. to 62s.; Kingston and Ware, 72s. to 75s.; Chevalier, 74s. to 75s.; York-shire and Lincolnshire food oats, 28s. to 31s.; potato ditto, 32s. to 31s.; Youghal and Cork, black 27s. to 30s.; ditto, white, 28s. to 32s.; tick beans, new, 41s. to 44s.; ditto, old, 44s. to 48s.; grey peas, 46s. to 48s.; mangel, 51s. to 53s.; white boilers, 60s. to 62s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 72s. to 75s.; country marks, 63s. to 72s. per 280 lb. Foreign: French flour, —s. to —s. per sack; American, 37s. to 46s. per barrel.

**Seeds.**—Our market is steady, and prices are well supported.

**Livestock.**—English, growing, 60s. to 82s.; Baltic cranling, 45s. to 58s.; Maltese and Odessa, 58s. to 60s.; hempseed, 42s. to 44s. per quarter. Coriander, 17s. to 18s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 13s. to 16s.; and tares, 7s. to 9s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £30 to £33 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, 410s. to 411s. 6s.; ditto, foreign, £10 to £11 10s. per ton. Rapeseed cakes, £8 10s. to £7 per ton. Canary, 54s. to 60s. per quarter. English clover-seed, white, 54s. to 60s.; ditto, red, 58s. to 62s. per cwt.

**Bread.**—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 11d. to 11½d.; of household ditto, 10d. to 10½d. per 4 lb. loaf.

**Imperial Weekly Average.**—Wheat, 82s. 4d.; barley, 42s. 10d.; oats, 37s. 2d.; rye, 50s. 3d.; beans, 48s. 9d.; peas, 51s. 5d.

**The Six Weeks' Average.**—Wheat, 75s. 2d.; barley, 40s. 4d.; oats, 35s. 9d.; rye, 47s. 4d.; beans, 47s. 8d.; peas, 50s. 10d.

**Duties.**—Wheat, 1s. 1s.; barley, 1s. 1s.; rye, 1s. 1s.; beans, 1s. 1s.; peas, 1s. 1s.

**Tea.**—The public sales held this week have gone off slowly, and prices have been with difficulty supported. Privately, common sound Congou is quoted at 1s. 1½d. per lb. The imports continue large.

**Sugar.**—The transactions in this market have not been large; yet the general quotations have ruled steady. Good fine yellow Barbadoes, 37s. to 40s.; brown Demerara, 32s. 6d. to 34s.; fine crystallised, 39s. to 40s.; soft yellow St. Kitts, 34s. to 36s.; fine yellow Mauritius, 37s. to 38s. 6d.; mild, to good white Bengal, 35s. 6d. to 39s. 6d. per cwt. Refined goods are firm, at 44s. 6d. to 45s. for brown lump; and 45s. to 46s. for low fine grocery.

**Coffee.**—Good ordinary native Ceylon has changed hands, at 48s. 6d. to 49s. per cwt. Most other kinds of coffee are steady.

**Cocoa.**—Fine red Trinidad is worth 40s. per cwt. Foreign parcels are quite as dear as last week.

**Rice.**—Our market is active, and prices have an upward tendency. Bengal, 16s. to 16s. 6d.; Madras, 14s. 9d. to 15s. 3d.; Arracan, 14s. 3d. to 14s. 6d. per cwt.

**Provisions.**—There is less doing in Irish butter, the prices of which have a downward tendency. Foreign butter is 4s. 6d. per lb. Butter is held at last week's currency. The bacon market is active, at a further advance of 1s. per cwt. Waterford sizeable, 61s. to 65s. per cwt. Other kinds of provisions are tolerable firm.

**Tallow.**—Prices continue to advance, with an active demand. P.Y.C. on the spot, 64s. 6d.; and for forward delivery, 65s., town tallow, 62s. per cwt.

**Oils.**—Our market is firm. Lined oil is worth 55s. per cwt. Turpentine is lower. Spirits, £2 17s. 6d. in puncheons, £2 12s. 6d. rough, 14s. per cwt.

**Spirits.**—Rum is still advancing, with a brisk market. Proof Lowlands, 3s. 3½d. to 3s. 4d.; East India, 3s. 2½d. to 3s. 3d. per gallon. Brandy is dearer. Sales of Cognac, best brands of 1851, 9s. 7d. to 9s. 9d.; older, 9s. 9d. to 10s. 2d. per gallon. Geneva and corn spirits active.

**Hay and Straw.**—Meadow hay, 13s. to 15s.; clover ditto, 14s. to 16s.; and straw, 11s. to 12s. 6d. per load. Trade dull.

**Wool.**—The next public sales of wool, at which about 35,000 bales will be offered, is appointed to commence on the 9th proximo. The demand is steady, at full prices.

**Potatoes.**—The supplies continue moderate. A good business is doing, as follows:—Kent and Essex regents, 160s. to 165s.; Scotch ditto, 140s. to 160s.; ditto cups, 120s. to 140s. per ton.

**Coal (Friday).**—Hasting's Hartley, 40s.; Harton, 40s.; Lawson, 39s.; Brad's, 42s.; Stewart's, 42s.; Casp, 40s.; Hinch Hall, 40s.; Tees, 41s. per ton.

**Hops (Friday).**—Factors having submitted to somewhat lower terms, a good business is doing, at our quotations. The imports this week are 74 bales from Ostend, and 269 from Antwerp. Mid and East Kent pockets, 111s. 6d. to 115s. 10s.; Weald of Kent, 69s. 6d. to 111; Sussex, 68 to 91; Foreign, 65 15s. to 68 15s. per cwt.

**Smithfield (Friday).**—Notwithstanding that the supply of beasts here this morning was limited, and in very middling condition, the demand for all breeds ruled inactive, at Monday's decline in the quotations. Sheep were in limited supply, and steady request, at full prices. Prime small calves moved off steadily, at extreme rates. Otherwise, the trade was in a sluggish state. Pigs sold on former terms, with an inactive demand. Milch cows were dull, at from 14 to 19 each, including their small calf.

For 8 lbs. to 10 lbs. the offals—Coarse and inferior breeds, 3s. 2½d. to 3s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large oxen, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; prime heifers, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 2½d. to 3s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 2d.; prime coarse-wooled ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime South Down ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 2d.; large coarse calves, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 10d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 0d. to 5s. 6d.; large hogs, 3s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; suckling calves, 22s. to 28s.; and quarter old old store pigs, 21s. to 27s. each. Total supplies: Beasts, 894; cows, 140; sheep, 3239; calves, 104; pigs, 300. Foreign: Beasts, 160; sheep, 390; calves, 60.

**Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).**—A full average business was transacted, as follows:—Prime large ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime small ditto, 4s.